DARK HORSE COMICS
Manga
SHADOW LADY: THE AWAKENING 1 OF 7
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MASAKAZU KATSURA'S
SHADOW LADY
THE AWAKENING
STUDIO PROTEUS
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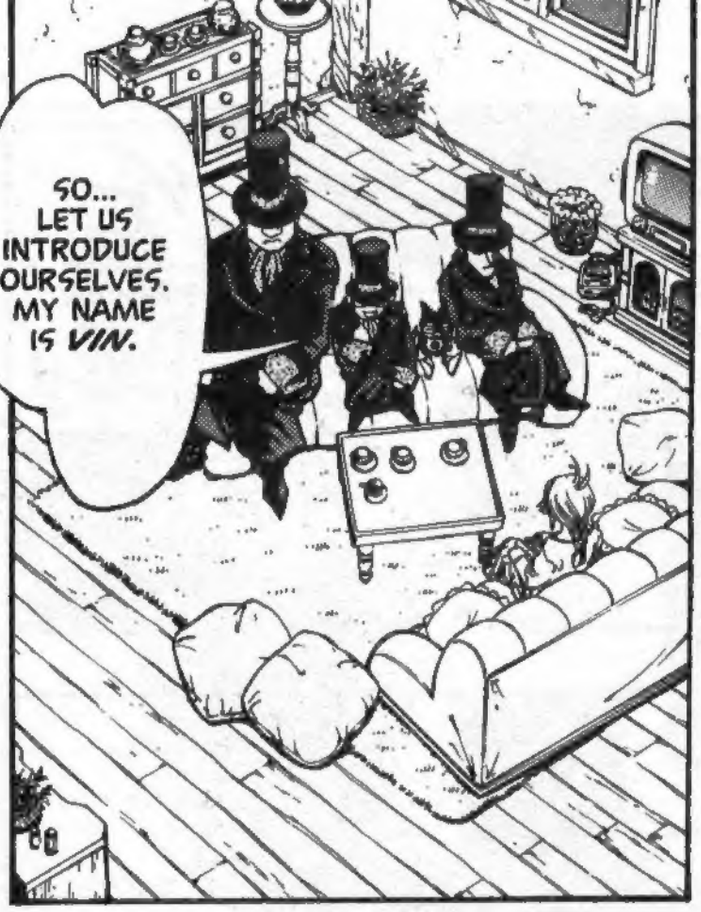
DECISION

NO, REALLY-- WE CAME TO TAKE YOUR LIFE.
WH--
WHAT?!
B... BUT WHY?!
HEH HEH HEH...
SHE'S AFRAID!
!
SHE'S AFRAID, SHE'S AFRAID!
SHE'S AFRAID AFRAID!

AFRAID!
AFRAID!
AFRAID!
'FRAID!
'FRAIDY
AFRAID!
AFRAID!
STOP!!
JUST KID-DING!
IT'S ALL A LIE!
HUH?
BUT IT'S REALLY THE TRUTH.
WHAT?!
JUST KIDDING! WE'RE LYING!
!?
BUT IT'S REALLY THE TRUTH.
JUST KIDDING...
...
...


SO... LET US INTRODUCE OURSELVES. MY NAME IS VIN.

THIS IS DELON...

...AND LUC.

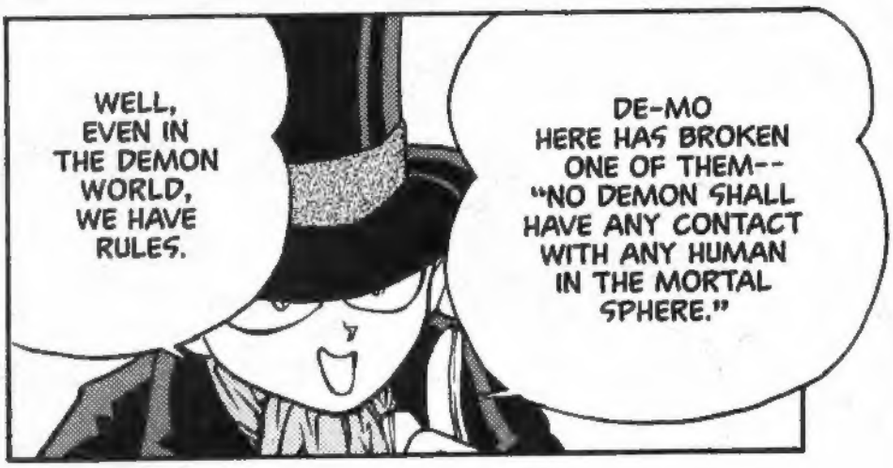
WE'RE THE... DEMON WORLD POLICE TRIO!
HIT IT, LUC!
TAA- DAA!
YEAH, SO?

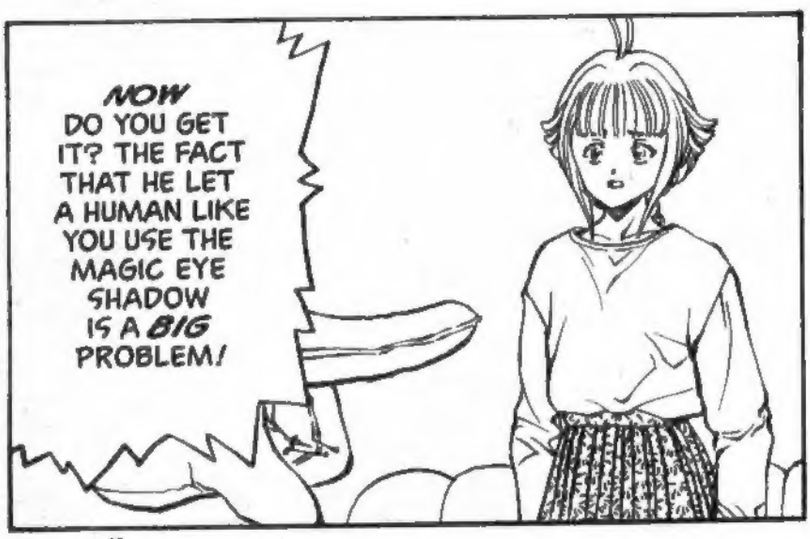
WHAT DO THE "DEMON WORLD POLICE" WANT FROM ME?
IS IT ABOUT DE-MO OR SOME-THING?

YES, YES, YES!! AREN'T YOU THE QUICK ONE?! THE TRUTH IS...

WE CAME HERE TO TAKE DE-MO BACK TO THE DEMON WORLD... TO EXECUTE HIM!
YEEK!

WHAT?! NO WAY!
WHY?! WHAT DID HE DO?!

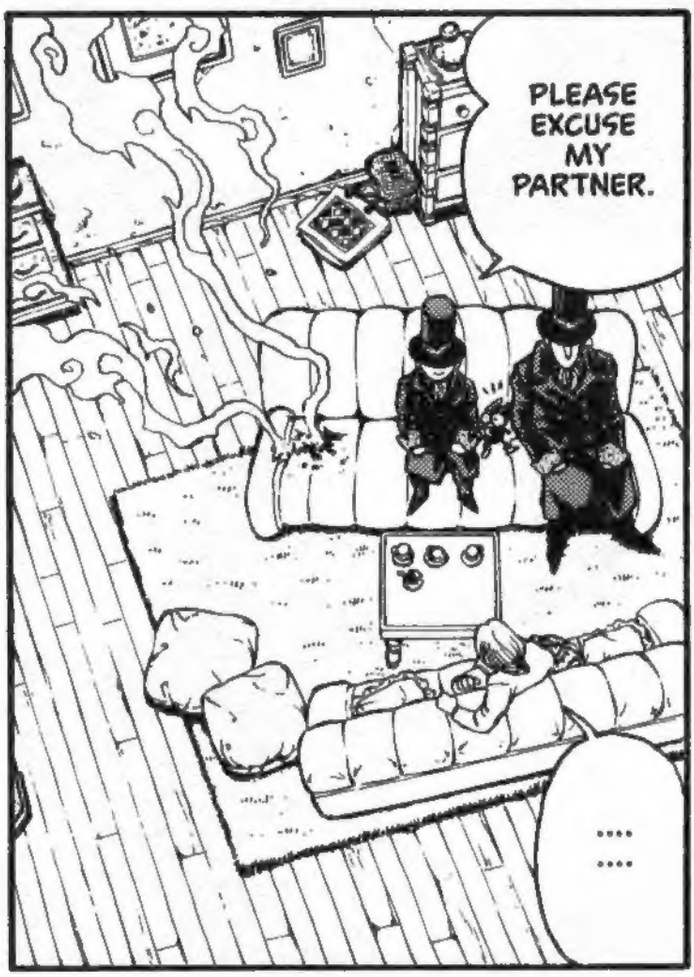

WELL, EVEN IN THE DEMON WORLD, WE HAVE RULES.
DE-MO HERE HAS BROKEN ONE OF THEM-- "NO DEMON SHALL HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH ANY HUMAN IN THE MORTAL SPHERE."


NOW DO YOU GET IT? THE FACT THAT HE LET A HUMAN LIKE YOU USE THE MAGIC EYE SHADOW IS A BIG PROBLEM!

SO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE MAGIC EYE SHADOW, THE DEMON WORLD, AND NOW, ABOUT US-- ANOTHER BIG PROBLEM.
THAT MEANS, FOR ONE THING, THAT WE'LL HAVE TO ERASE YOUR MEMORY.
YARGH!
ENOUGH TALKING! LET'S JUST KILL EVERYONE HERE!
EEK!
WHAM
QUIET!

AGHK
KRAKOOM

FZZAK
FZZK

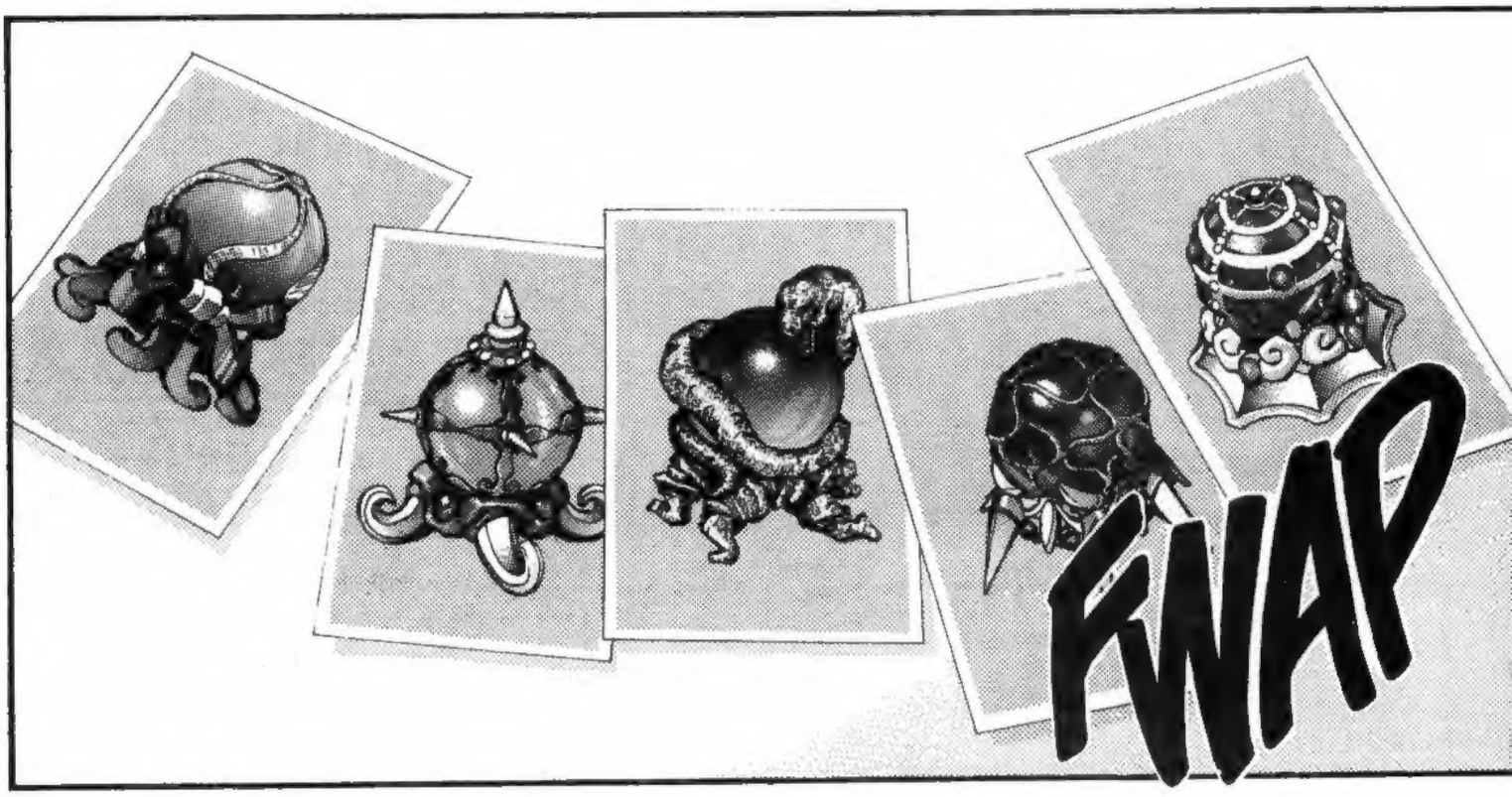

PLEASE EXCUSE MY PARTNER.
....
....

UH... N-NO PROBLEM.

SO, ANYWAY-- FIRST OF ALL, I'LL ERASE YOUR MEMORY.

W-
W-W-
W-W-
WAIT
A
SEC!
CAN YOU HOLD ON A MINUTE AND HEAR ME OUT WITHOUT GETTING MAD? PLEASE? ISN'T THERE ANYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT DE-MO'S CRIME?
I... I MEAN, I CAN'T SEE THAT HE'S DONE ANYTHING HE SHOULD HAVE TO DIE FOR!
AIMI...
BUT THAT'S YOUR HUMAN PERCEPTION OF THINGS. WE ARE NOT THE SAME AS YOU.
HOWEVER, I SORT OF EXPECTED YOU TO REACT THIS WAY.
WE DID A BIT OF CHECKING ON YOUR PERSONALITY, SO WE HAVE SOME IDEA OF HOW YOU THINK.
WE CAN'T JUST LET HIM GO FOR NO REASON, BUT WE CAN CLEAR THE SLATE... IF YOU'LL DO A LITTLE JOB FOR US.

REALLY?! NO KIDDING?!
WH- WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?!


FWAP

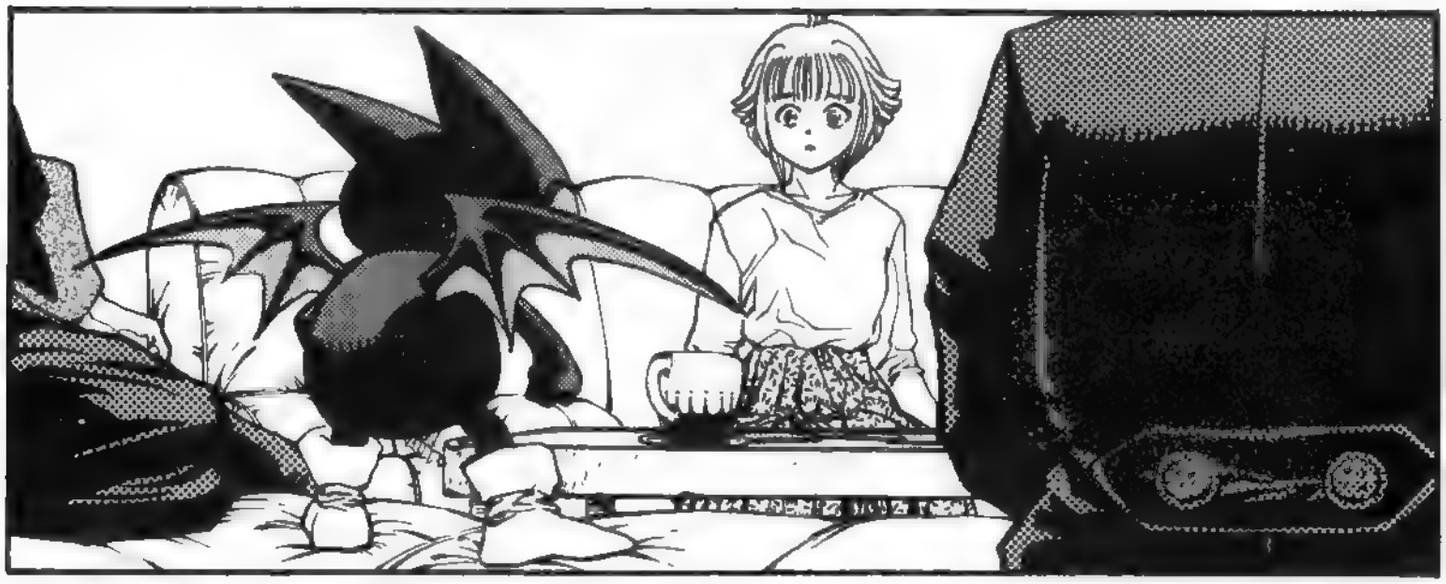
COLLECT ALL OF THESE FOR US. THAT'S IT.

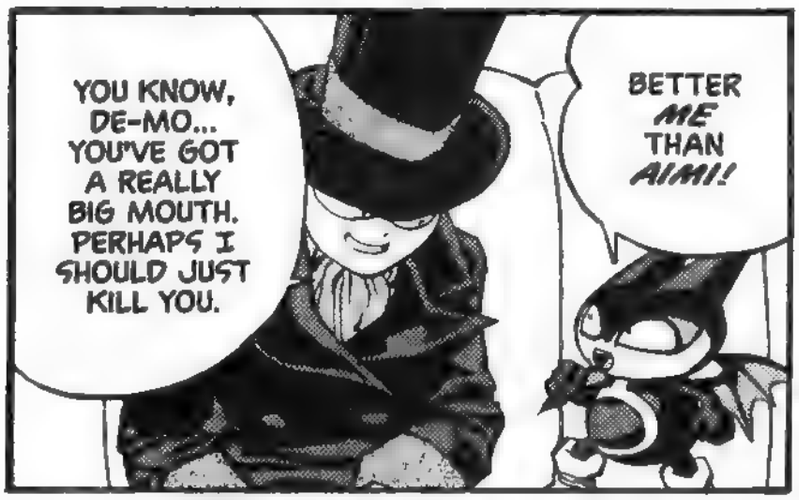
HUH? BUT WHERE... HOW... ME?

YES, AND YOU CAN EVEN USE THE MAGIC EYE SHADOW.
IN FACT, I EXPECT YOU'LL HAVE TO USE IT, IN ORDER TO FULFILL OUR REQUEST.

HMM... STRANGE. WHAT KIND OF JEWELS ARE THEY?
THOSE ARE NO ORDINARY JEWELS, BUT DEMON STONES.
!!
"DEMON STONES" ...?
IT HAPPENED ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO...
EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE KEPT IN A VERY SAFE PLACE, A CERTAIN... INDIVIDUAL... STOLE THEM AND DEFECTED ACROSS THE DIMENSIONS TO THE HUMAN WORLD.
WE CAUGHT AND IMMEDIATELY EXECUTED HIM, THUS COMPLETING THE FIRST PART OF OUR MISSION. BUT UNFORTUNATELY...
...THE DEMON STONES HAD ALREADY BEEN SOLD OFF TO HUMANS.
WE HAVE NO IDEA WHERE THEY ARE NOW.

AND SO YOU WANT ME TO FIND THEM... AND STEAL THEM BACK FOR YOU...?
THEY ARE NOW IN HUMAN HANDS, AND WE CAN HAVE NO CONTACT WITH HUMANS.
THOSE ARE THE RULES, AFTER ALL.
AIMI, NO! DON'T DO IT!
EACH ONE OF THOSE JEWELS HAS A RENEGADE ARCH-DEMON IMPRISONED INSIDE IT--THAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THE DEMON STONES!
EVEN WORSE, IF THE STONES AREN'T KEPT PROPERLY STORED, THE SEAL-SPELLS CAN BE BROKEN!
AND YOU'D HAVE NO CHANCE AGAINST AN ARCH-DEMON, EVEN AS SHADOW LADY!



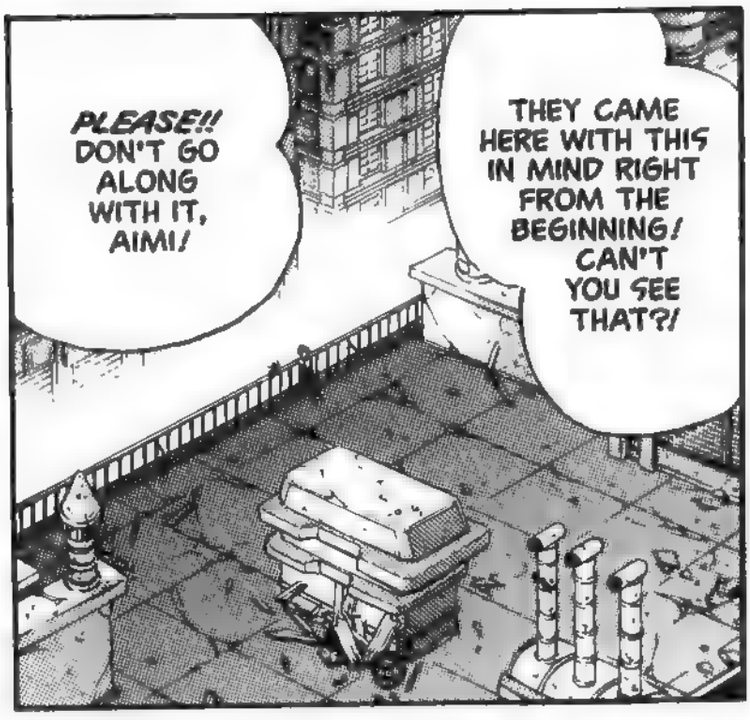

YOU KNOW, DE-MO... YOU'VE GOT A REALLY BIG MOUTH. PERHAPS I SHOULD JUST KILL YOU.
BETTER *ME* THAN *AIMI!*

OH, DE-MO ...!

IT'S TRUE-- IF THE DEMON STONES STAY IN THIS WORLD, THE SEAL-SPELLS WILL EVENTUALLY BREAK, AND THE IMPRISONED DEMONS WILL RAGE FREE ACROSS THE EARTH... *DESTROYING ALL BEFORE THEM.*
AND FRANKLY SPEAKING, WE RATHER ENJOY SEEING HUMANS SUFFER. SO HELP US OR NOT, IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE.

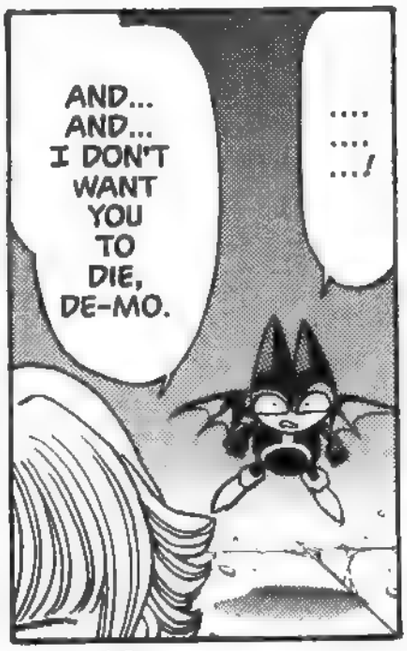
SHALL WE GO THEN, GENTLEMEN ...?
BYE-BYE, AIMI... sniff
W-*WAIT!*

JUST... GIVE ME A FEW MINUTES TO THINK IT OVER, OKAY?


PLEASE!! DON'T GO ALONG WITH IT, AIMI!
THEY CAME HERE WITH THIS IN MIND RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING! CAN'T YOU SEE THAT?!

I'M SURE THEY NEED THE DEMON STONES BACK A LOT MORE THAN THEY LET ON! AND I'M ALSO SURE THEY CAN GET THEM BACK WITHOUT YOUR HELP!
THEY JUST WANT YOU TO DO THEIR DIRTY WORK!

B... BUT THEY SAID THE STONES WOULD CAUSE TROUBLE IN THIS WORLD...
I BET THEY'RE LYING!

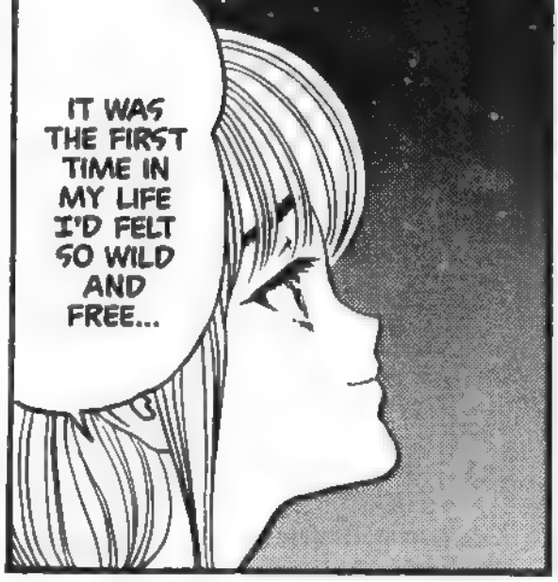

AND... AND... I DON'T WANT YOU TO DIE, DE-MO.
....!

AW, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. ONCE THEY WIPE YOUR MEMORY, YOU WON'T EVEN REMEMBER ME, RIGHT?

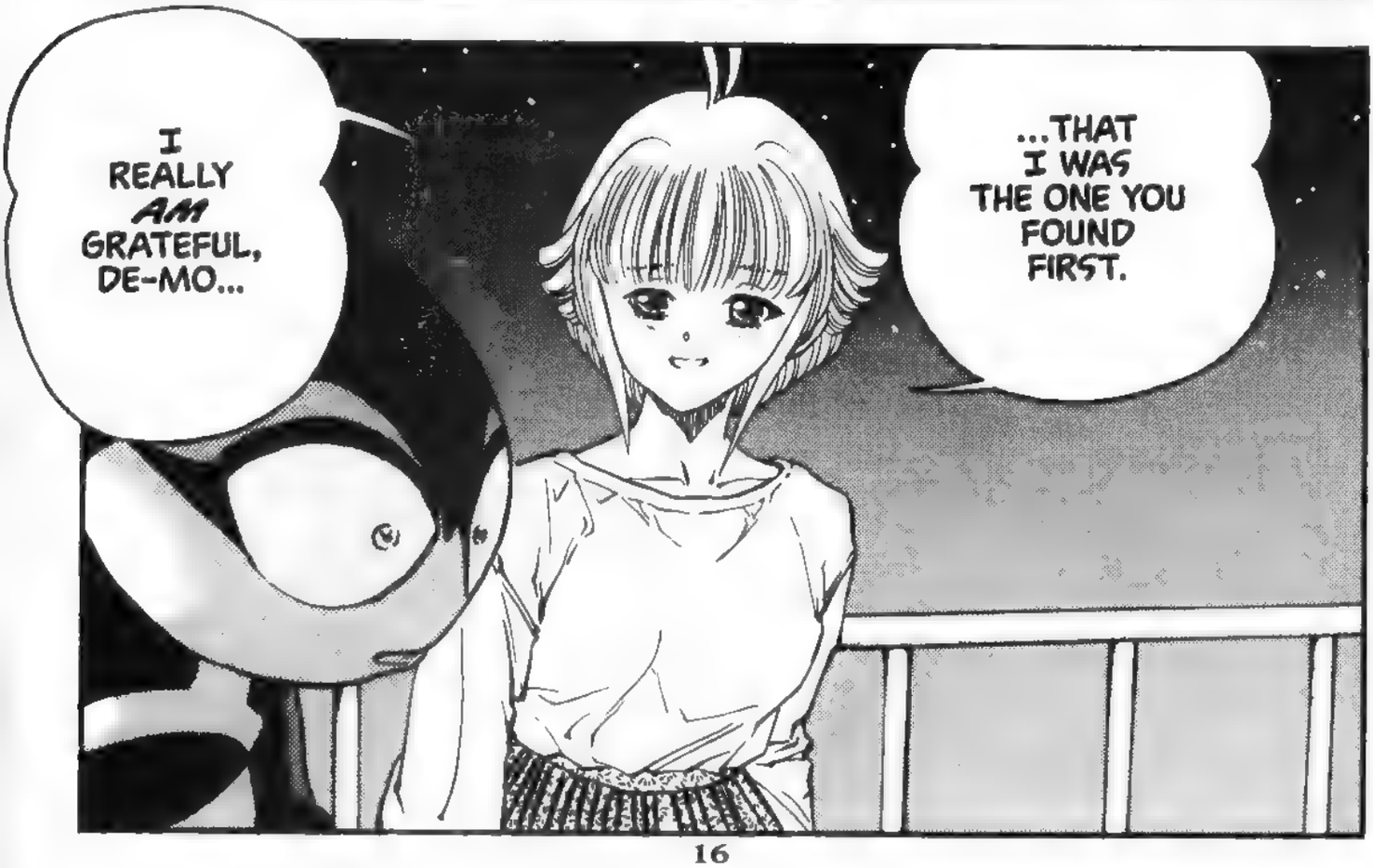
TELL ME, DE-MO...
...WHY DID YOU COME HERE-- TO THE HUMAN WORLD?
I... I WAS LONELY.
THE MAGIC EYE SHADOW AND I ARE ONE.
AND UNLESS SOMEONE IS USING IT...
...I DON'T HAVE A PURPOSE IN LIFE.
BUT MAGIC EYE SHADOW HAS BEEN VERY UNPOPULAR IN THE DEMON WORLD FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.
NO ONE USED ME ANY MORE.

SO... I THOUGHT, MAYBE... MAYBE SOMEONE IN THE HUMAN WORLD COULD USE ME.
IT WAS JUST A SUDDEN IMPULSE THAT BROUGHT ME HERE.
AND THE FIRST PERSON I RAN INTO WAS YOU, AIMI.
HA, HA... YOU REALLY LOOKED SCARED, BACK THEN!
BOX
SHEESH... WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? SOME WEIRD-LOOKING CREATURE SUDDENLY APPEARS IN FRONT OF ME...
YOU CORNERED ME AND PUT THE EYE SHADOW ON... AND I TRANSFORMED INTO SHADOW LADY FOR THE FIRST TIME.
WELL... I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE IN A FRAME OF MIND TO LISTEN TO ME, SO...

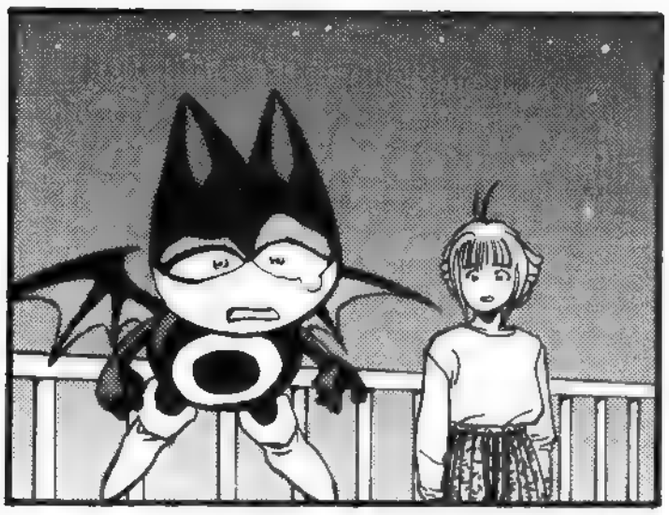
WHOA?!
WHAT IS THIS?! I FEEL SO ALIVE, SO FULL OF ENERGY!


IT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE I'D FELT SO WILD AND FREE...

AND BECAUSE I HATED MY SHYNESS SO MUCH, I INSTANTLY FELL IN LOVE WITH BEING SHADOW LADY.


I REALLY AM GRATEFUL, DE-MO...
...THAT I WAS THE ONE YOU FOUND FIRST.

TH-THERE CAN BE NO GREATER BLISS FOR ME THAN FOR SOMEONE TO USE THE SHADOW AND BE JOYFUL BECAUSE OF IT!
IT IS MY ONLY PURPOSE! T-TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT MAKES ALL THOSE YEARS OF LONELY WAITING WORTH IT!
=sniff=
AN'... AN' BOTH OF US ARE ALSO ALIKE IN THAT WE DON'T HAVE ANY FAMILY ANYMORE.
EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY PRETEND, I GOT TO BE YOUR LITTLE BROTHER FOR A WHILE. HONEST, AIMI-- I DON'T MIND DYING ANYMORE.
AAH!
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT, DE-MO ...!
ENOUGH! YOUR TIME'S UP, MORTAL-- MAKE YOUR DECISION!

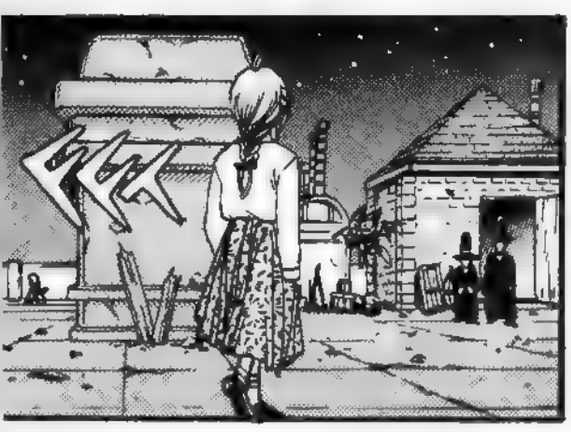


=snff=
GO AHEAD AND TAKE ME--
I'LL DO IT!

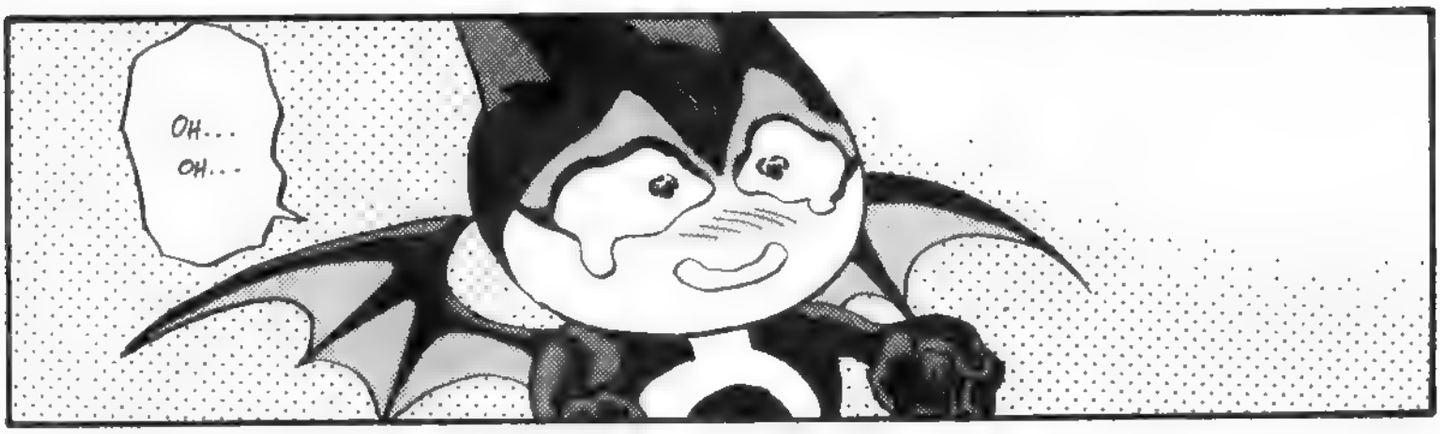
HUH ...?

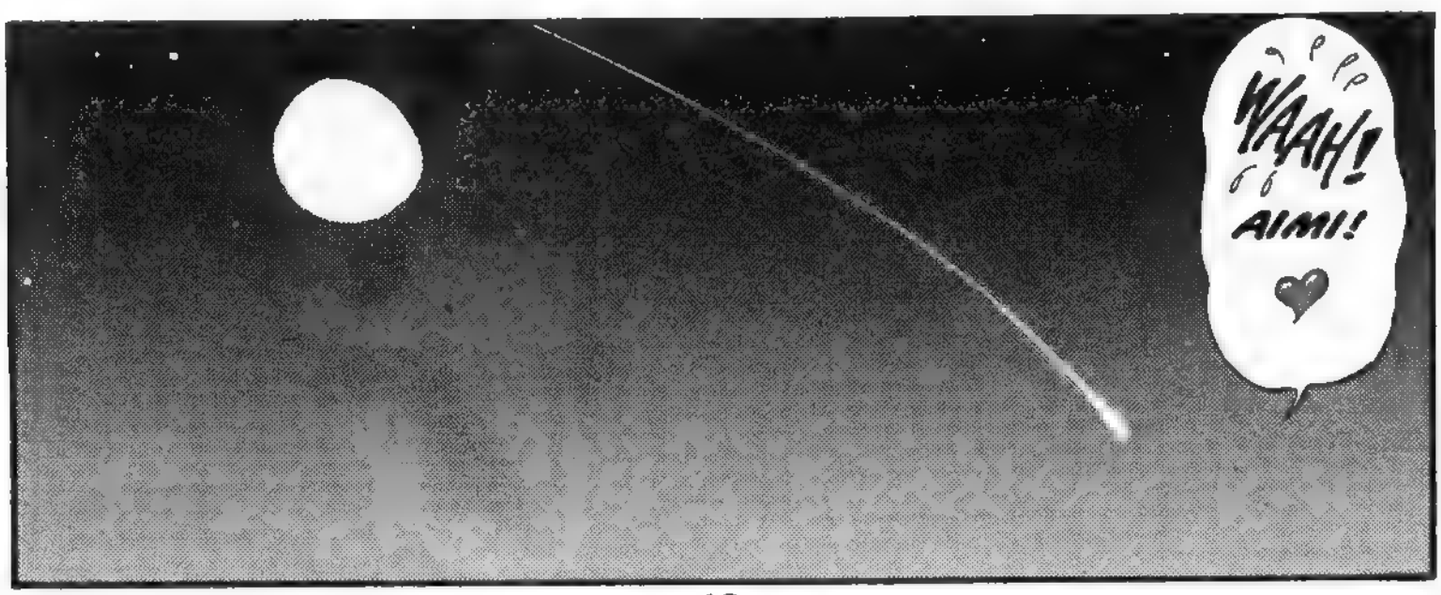
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS BRING YOU THE FIVE DEMON STONES, RIGHT? THEN I'LL DO IT-- IF IT'LL SAVE DE-MO!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT IT'S DANGEROUS?!
YOU COULD GET KILLED, AIMI! THE FOREVER DEATH!!



LOOK... I CAN'T JUST LET YOU DIE.





NEXT: *"THE QUICKENING"...!*

MASAKAZU KATSURA'S

SHADOW LADY

THE AWAKENING

DEMON STONES?

SERIAL KIDNAPPER?

HOW DO I FIND THEM?

MASAKAZU KATSURA

DARK HORSE COMICS®

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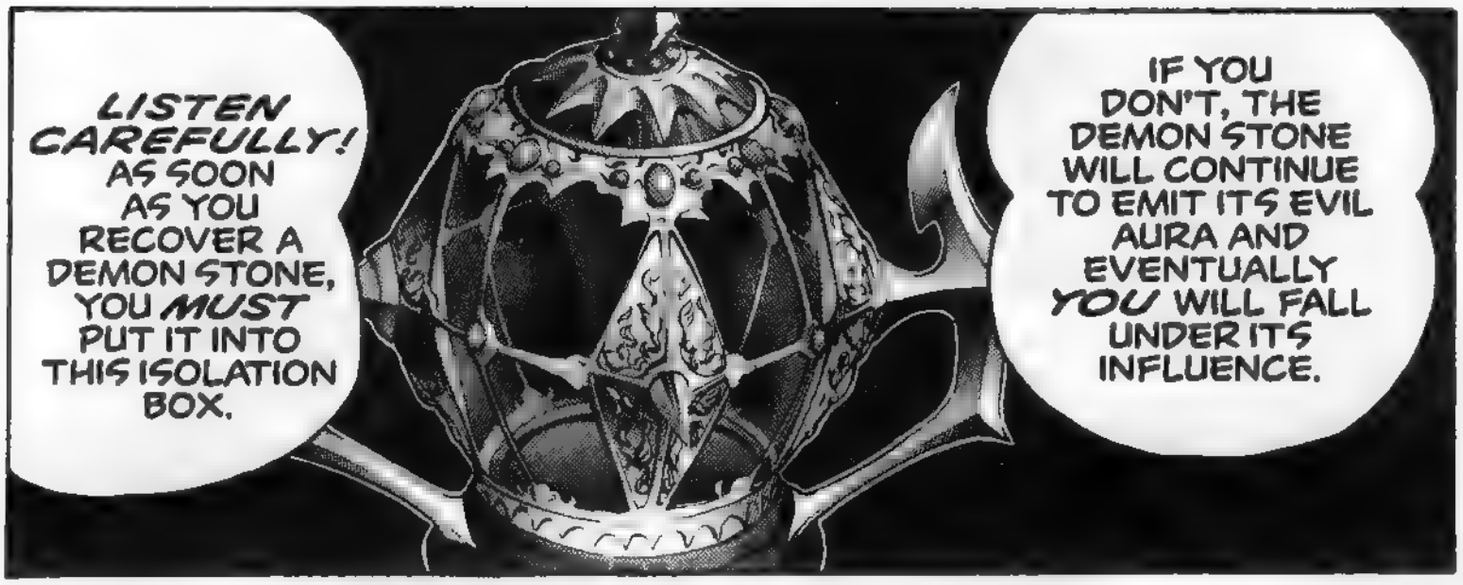
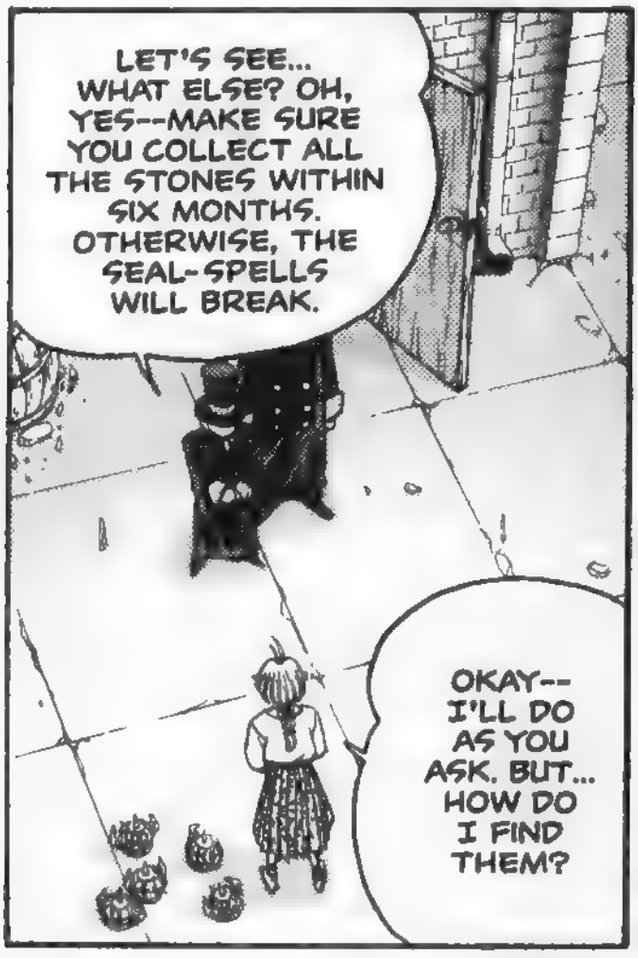
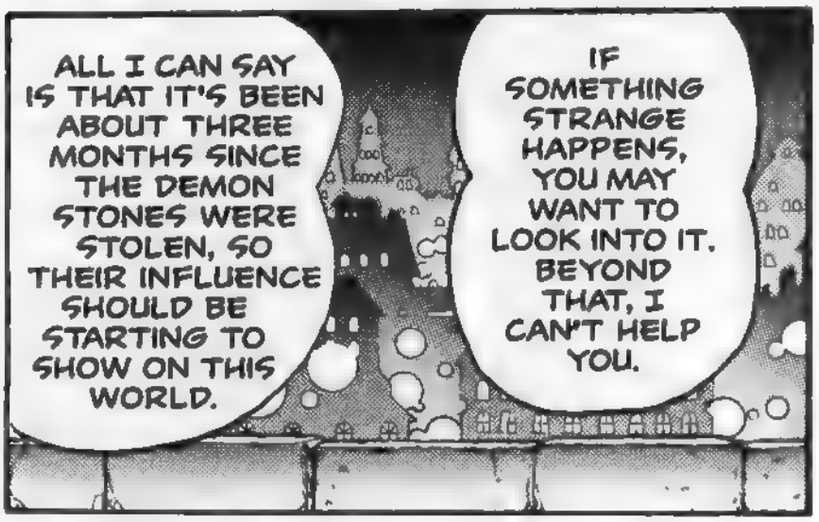
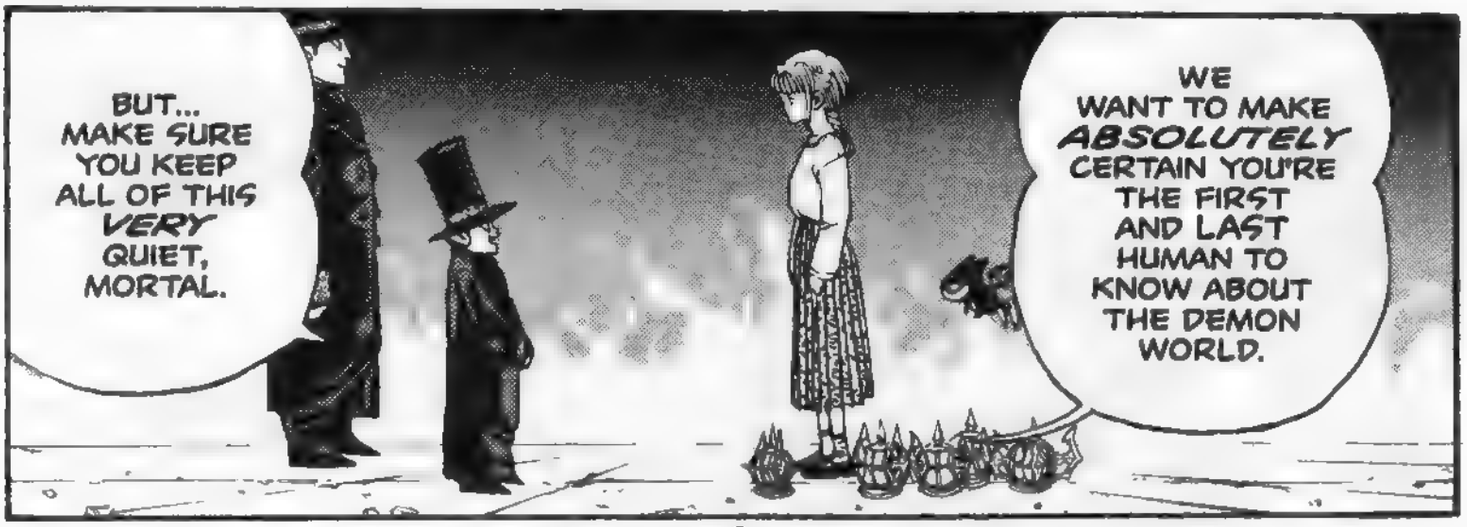
THE QUICKENING


LISTEN CAREFULLY! AS SOON AS YOU RECOVER A DEMON STONE, YOU MUST PUT IT INTO THIS ISOLATION BOX.
IF YOU DON'T, THE DEMON STONE WILL CONTINUE TO EMIT ITS EVIL AURA AND EVENTUALLY YOU WILL FALL UNDER ITS INFLUENCE.


LET'S SEE... WHAT ELSE? OH, YES--MAKE SURE YOU COLLECT ALL THE STONES WITHIN SIX MONTHS. OTHERWISE, THE SEAL-SPELLS WILL BREAK.
OKAY-- I'LL DO AS YOU ASK. BUT... HOW DO I FIND THEM?

DON'T ASK ME!
HUH?! WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "DON'T ASK ME"...!


ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT IT'S BEEN ABOUT THREE MONTHS SINCE THE DEMON STONES WERE STOLEN, SO THEIR INFLUENCE SHOULD BE STARTING TO SHOW ON THIS WORLD.
IF SOMETHING STRANGE HAPPENS, YOU MAY WANT TO LOOK INTO IT. BEYOND THAT, I CAN'T HELP YOU.


BUT... MAKE SURE YOU KEEP ALL OF THIS VERY QUIET, MORTAL.
WE WANT TO MAKE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN YOU'RE THE FIRST AND LAST HUMAN TO KNOW ABOUT THE DEMON WORLD.

SHOULD ANYONE FIND OUT ABOUT US, THE DEMON STONES...
...OR EVEN THE SECRET IDENTITY OF SHADOW LADY--

--THEN NOT ONLY WILL DE-MO BE IMMEDIATELY EXECUTED...
...BUT YOU WILL FOLLOW HIM IN DEATH!
DOOM

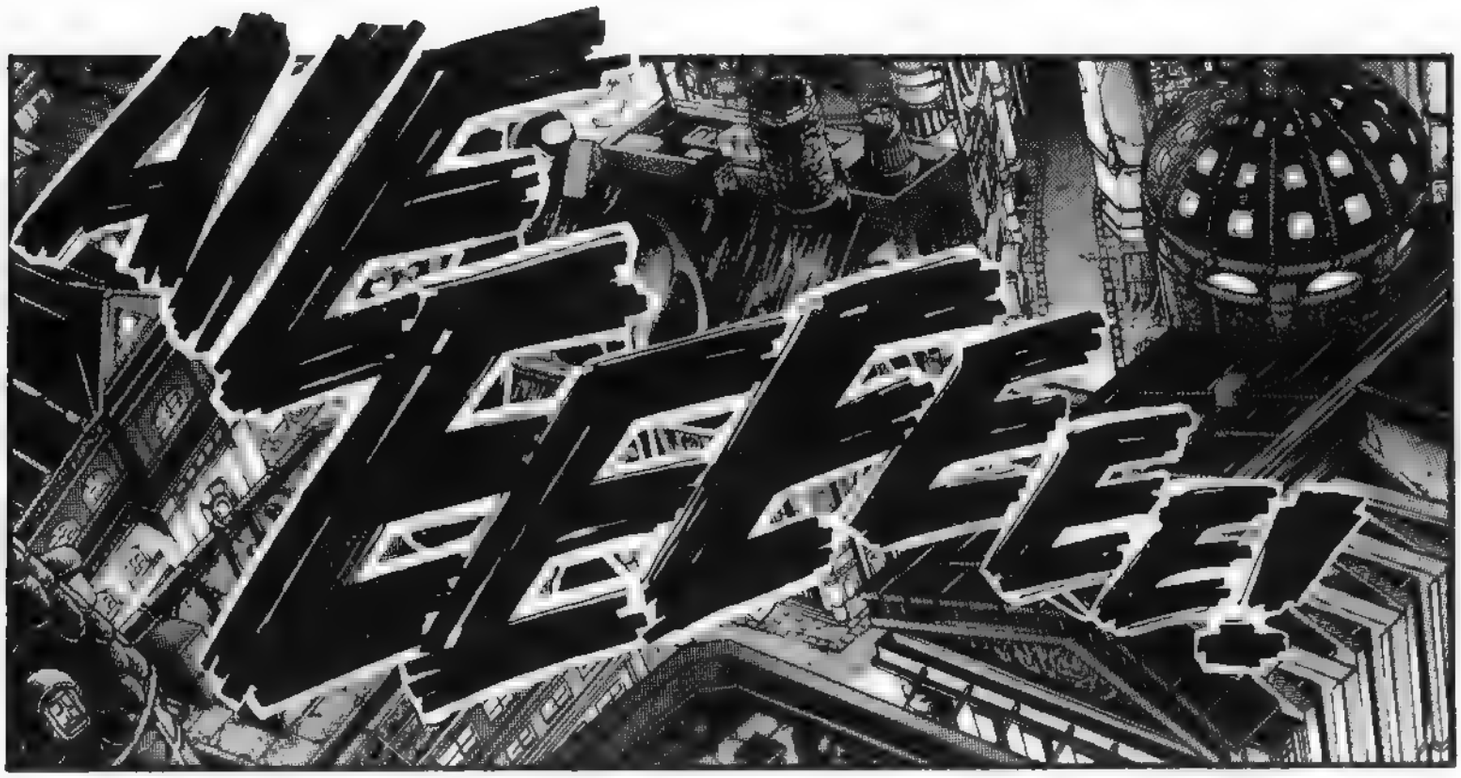
O-OKAY...!

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

hahh
hff
hahh

SKSH
hahh
hnhh
hahh
hahh
hff
FSSHH
?!
WHAM

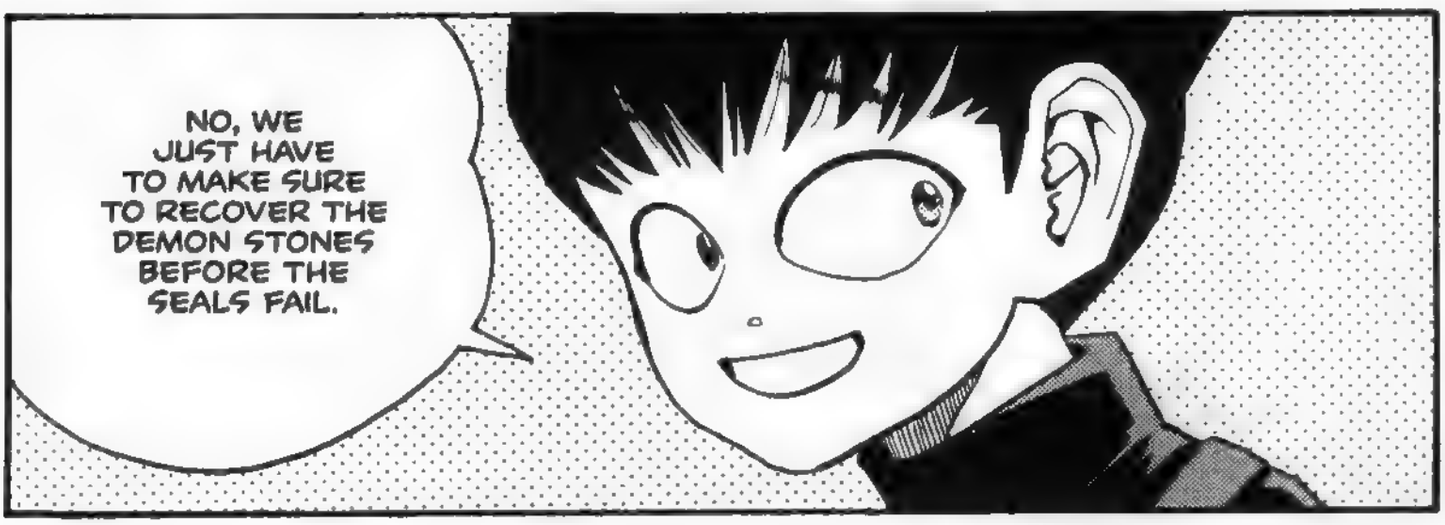

ALL
EEEE!

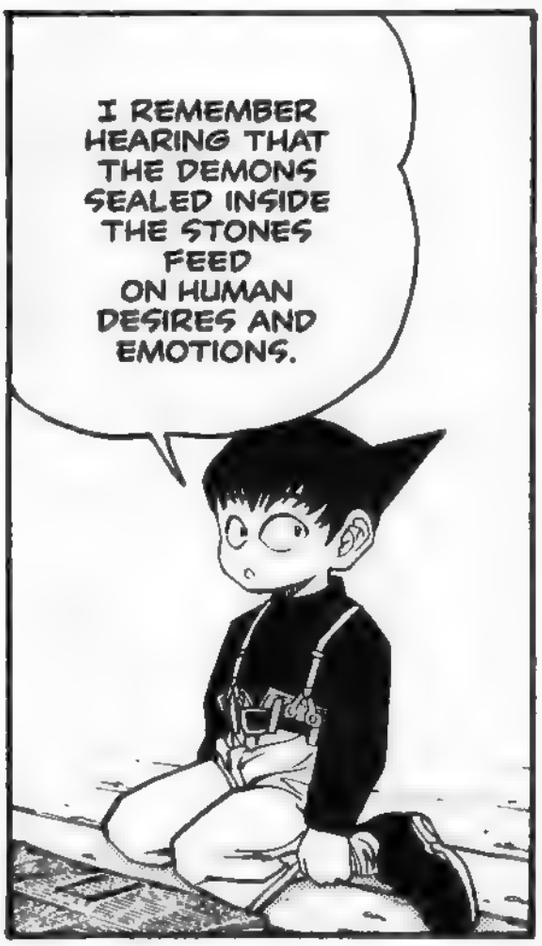
HYAH!

RYAAAH!

HYAAH!
=hff=
KRAK
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M =ouch= I'M IN TRAINING FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST THE DEMONS.

GIVE IT UP. NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DEFEAT AN ARCH-DEMON.
SO WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! WE'RE GOING TO DIE EITHER WAY?!


NO, WE JUST HAVE TO MAKE SURE TO RECOVER THE DEMON STONES BEFORE THE SEALS FAIL.


I REMEMBER HEARING THAT THE DEMONS SEALED INSIDE THE STONES FEED ON HUMAN DESIRES AND EMOTIONS.

SO, LIKE THEY SAID, IF WE DON'T DEAL WITH IT QUICKLY, THE ARCH-DEMONS WILL ABSORB ENOUGH PSYCHIC ENERGY TO BREAK THE SEALS.

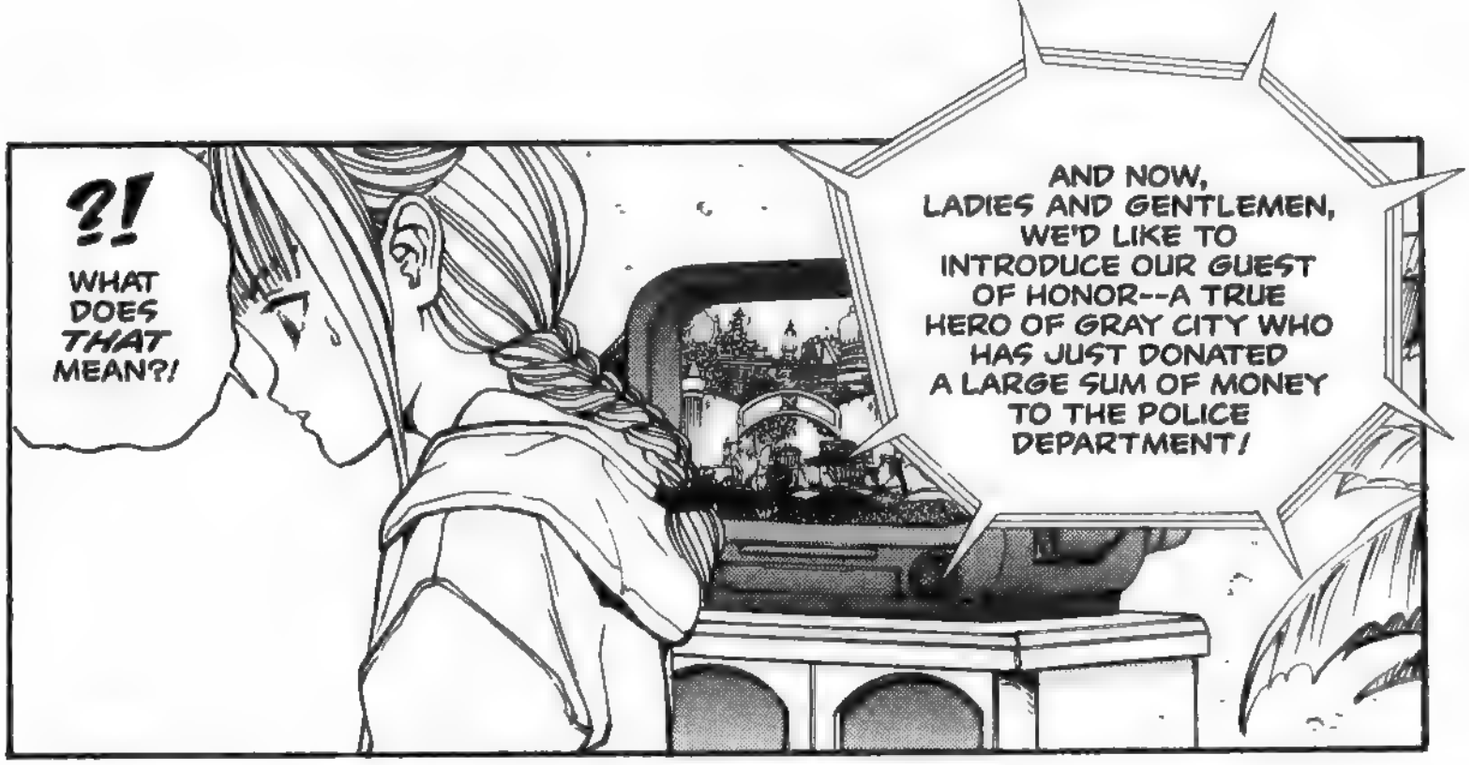
=sighh= BUT WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO START...

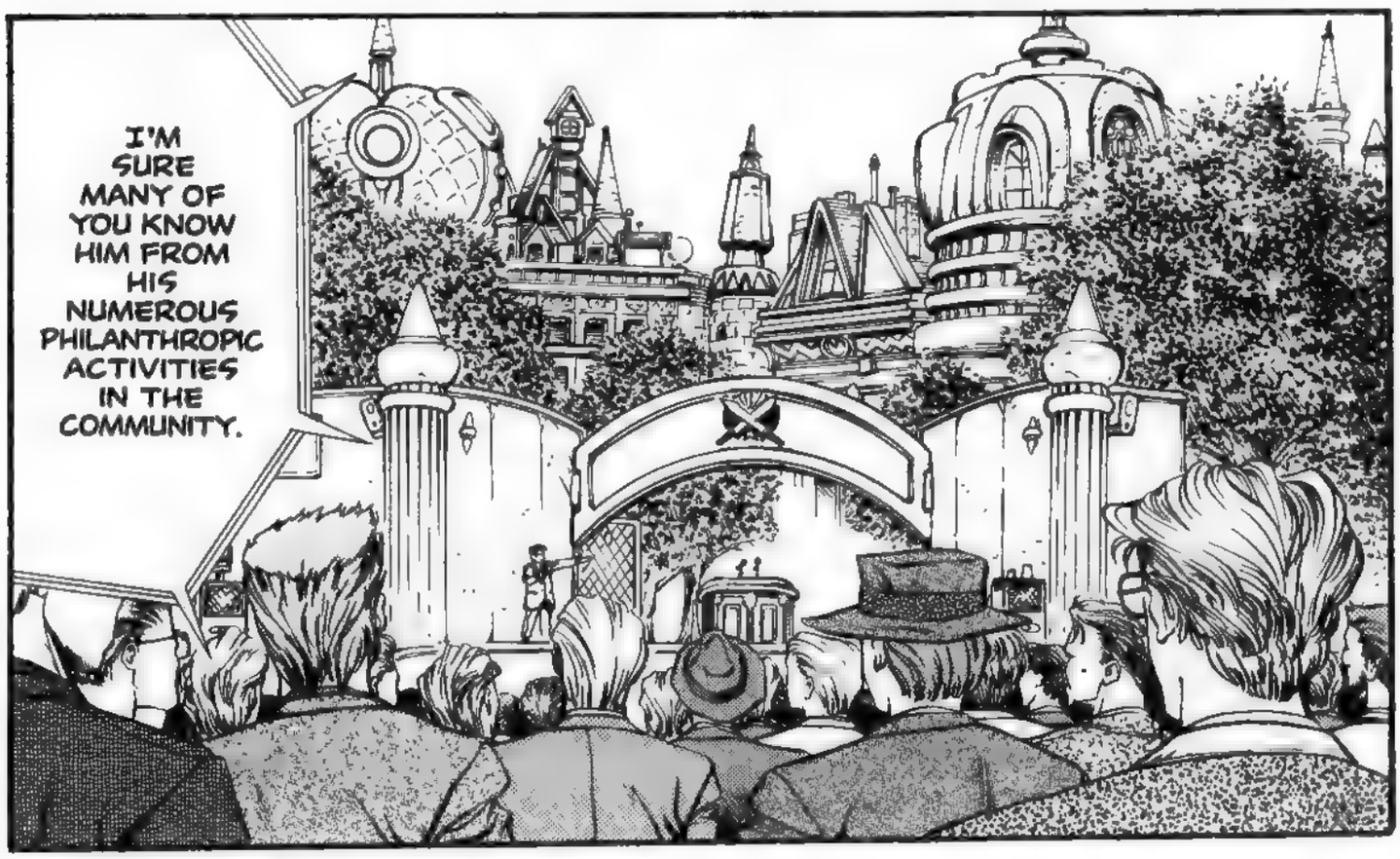
I'VE GOT A GOOD IDEA, THOUGH. CHECK OUT THIS ARTICLE HERE--
"IN THE LAST WEEK, TWENTY YOUNG WOMEN HAVE GONE MISSING. AUTHORITIES BELIEVE IT TO BE THE WORK OF A SERIAL KIDNAPPER..." WHAT DO YOU THINK? A GOOD PLACE TO START?

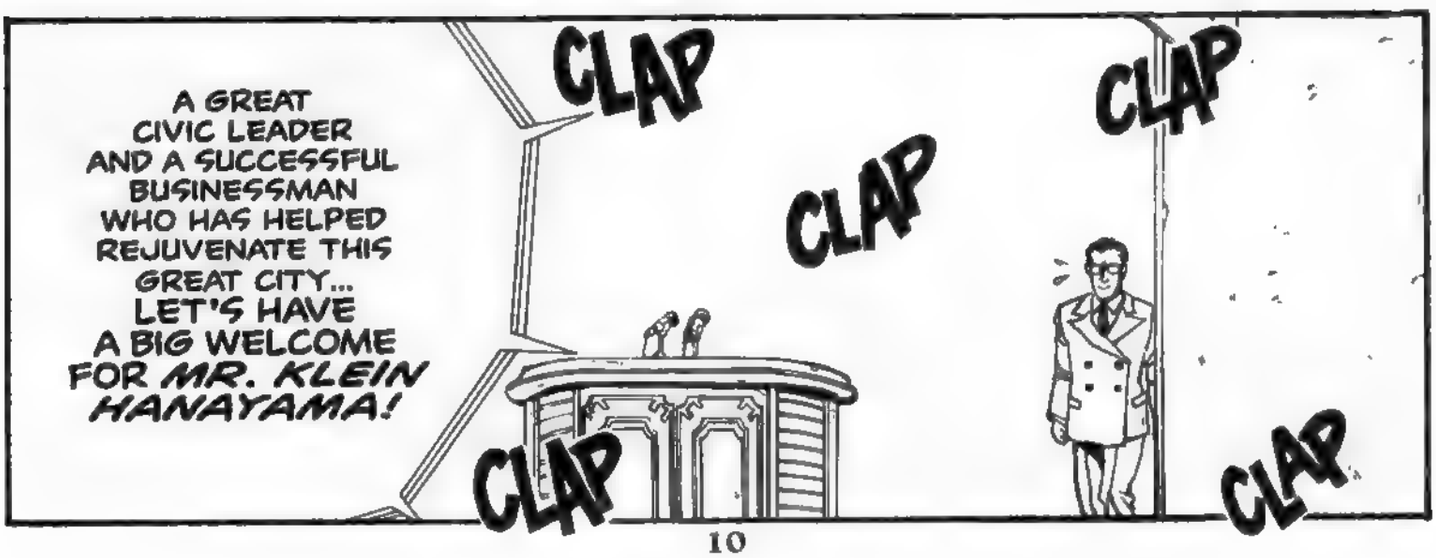
WOW, THAT *IS* KIND OF SUSPICIOUS!

BUT HOW DO WE CATCH THE CULPRIT ...?

HEH, HEH...


?!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?!
AND NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE OUR GUEST OF HONOR--A TRUE HERO OF GRAY CITY WHO HAS JUST DONATED A LARGE SUM OF MONEY TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!


I'M SURE MANY OF YOU KNOW HIM FROM HIS NUMEROUS PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY.

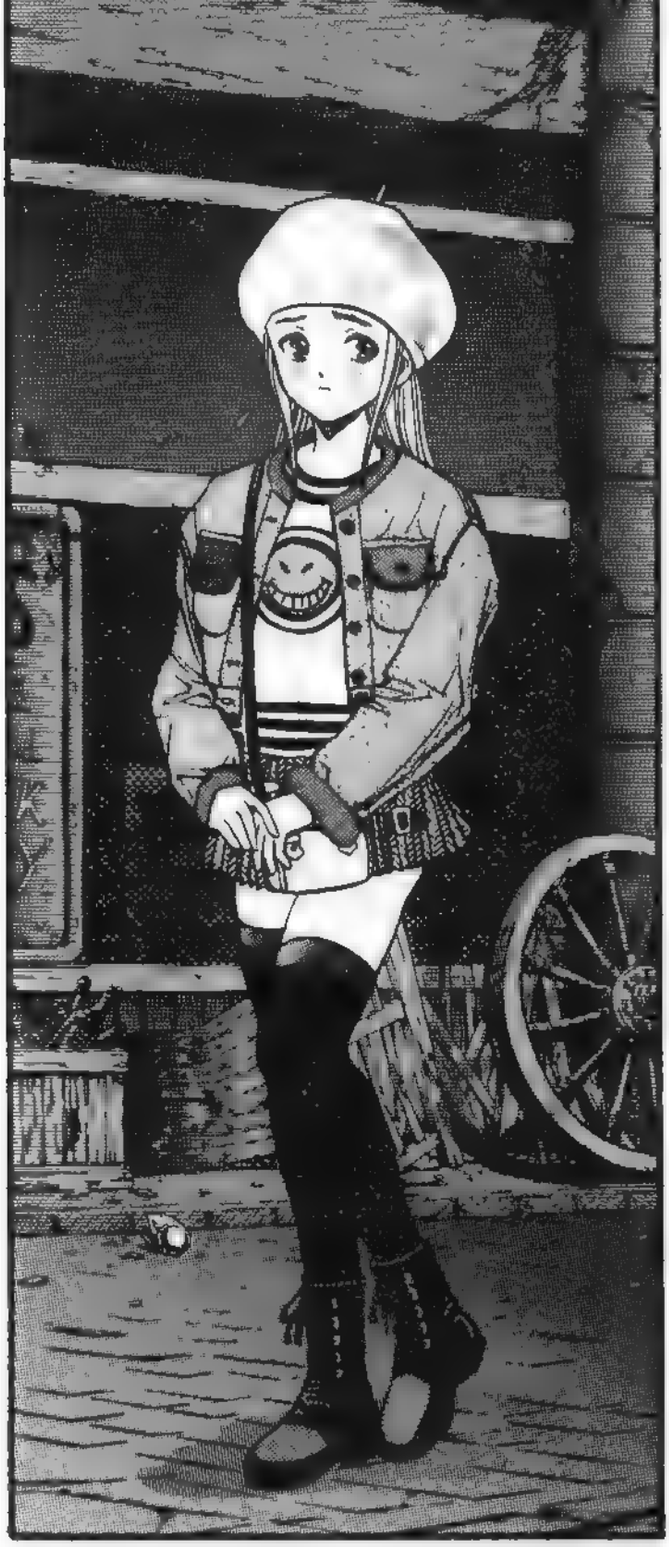

A GREAT CIVIC LEADER AND A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN WHO HAS HELPED REJUVENATE THIS GREAT CITY... LET'S HAVE A BIG WELCOME FOR MR. KLEIN HANAYAMA!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

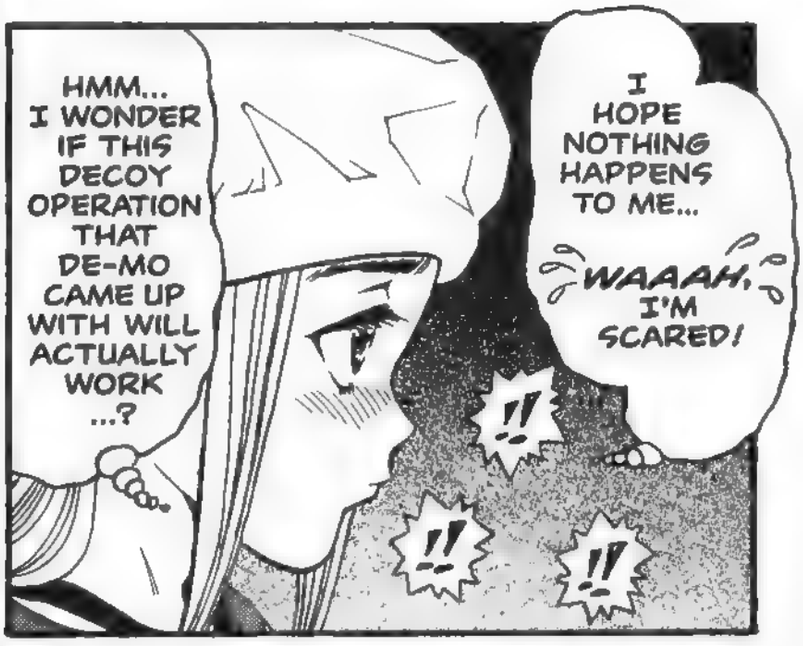
HOORAY FOR KLEIN!

AREA A CLEAR.

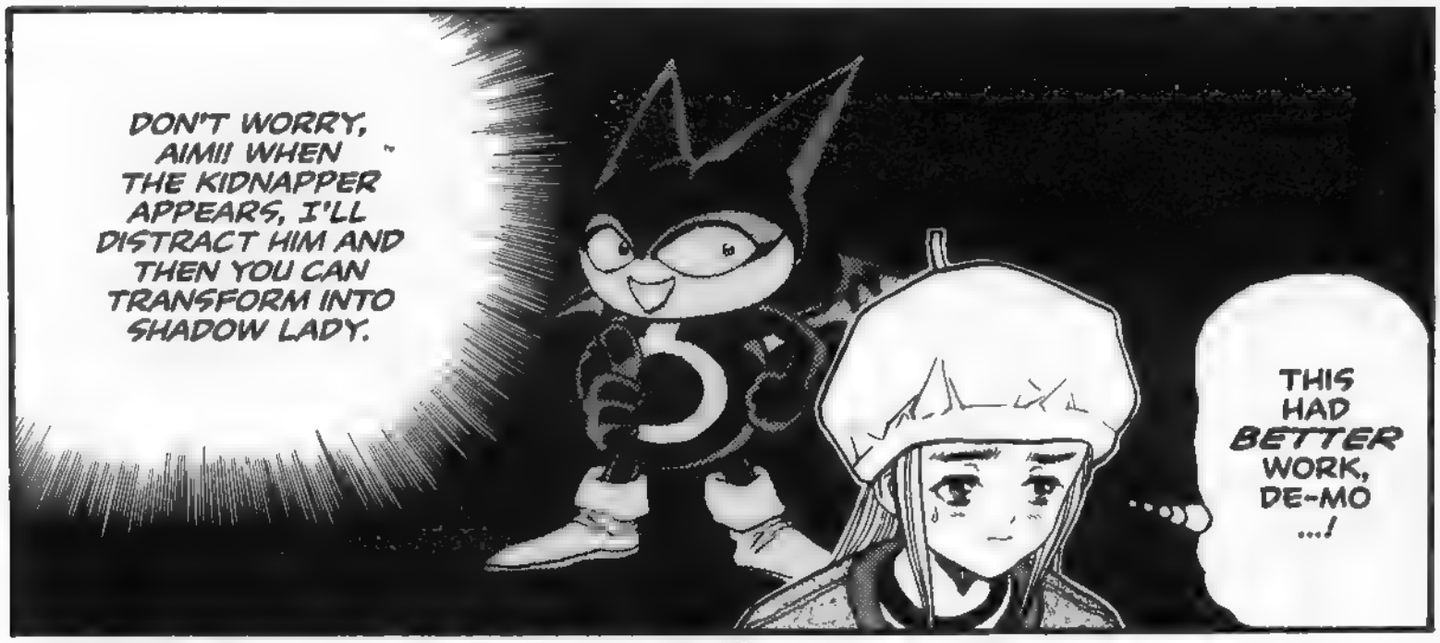
AREA B CLEAR.

THAT NIGHT IN GRAY CITY, THE SHADOWS OF THE BACK STREETS AND ALLEYS WERE FILLED WITH POLICE ON OVERTIME.




HMM... I WONDER IF THIS DECOY OPERATION THAT DE-MO CAME UP WITH WILL ACTUALLY WORK ...?
I HOPE NOTHING HAPPENS TO ME...
WAAAH, I'M SCARED!
!!
!!
!!

BUT THE WORST PART IS THIS... THIS NASTY MINISKIRT!
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK THIS IS JUST DE-MO'S TASTES SHOWING THROUGH. I BET I'M MORE LIKELY TO GET PROPOSITIONED BY SOME PERVERT THAN GRABBED BY THE KIDNAPPER!
TANK


DON'T WORRY, AIMI! WHEN THE KIDNAPPER APPEARS, I'LL DISTRACT HIM AND THEN YOU CAN TRANSFORM INTO SHADOW LADY.
THIS HAD BETTER WORK, DE-MO ...!

HEY, YOUNG LADY.
ACK!
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD ABOUT THE KIDNAP-PINGS? YOU'D BETTER GET ON HOME.
Y-YES, SIR!
SCARED ME HALF TO DEATH!
I GUESS HE'S A PLAINCLOTHES POLICEMAN. I WONDER HOW MANY THEY HAVE OUT TONIGHT?
AT THIS RATE, THEY MIGHT CATCH THE KIDNAPPER BEFORE I CAN EVEN--
FWDD
BIJTERA
HUH? WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT COP...?
WHD
WAAH! IT WORKED! HE'S HERE!
THMD THMD THMD THMD

AAA!
UH-OH ...!
FWSSSSHHHH
!!

SSSHHHH
YEE HEE HEE HEE!

EEEEK!
WHOOSH
FOD
HAH! S-S-SO YOU'VE COME! NOW I'VE GOT YOU J-JUST WHERE I... uh... W-WANT YOU... AND, er... LIKE TH-THAT! H-HA-HA!
WAAH! DE-MO... HURRY!
DE-MO!!
WAITING FOR THIS TO HELP YOU, PERHAPS?

AAH?! DE-MO!
HEE HEE HEE!
FHHSSHHH
I... I DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE-- I'LL JUST HAVE TO LET HIM SEE ME TRANSFORM!
IF I DON'T BECOME SHADOW LADY, I'M GOING TO BE KIDNAPPED OR KILLED OR WORSE!
THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT, YOU LOUSY KIDNAP-PER!
EH?!

DON'T YOU WORRY, MISS! NEVER FEAR-- SPARK GIRL IS HERE!
"DON'T WORRY"? HOW CAN I NOT?! THIS ISN'T SOMETHING YOU CAN HANDLE!
AND EVEN WORSE, NOW I REALLY DON'T DARE TRANSFORM INTO SHADOW LADY, NOT IF SHE CAN SEE!
YEE HEE HEE!
TODAY IS MY LUCKY DAY! TWO VICTIMS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
FSSHH

NEXT: "ANGER"...!

DARK HORSE COMICS
Manga
SHADOW LADY 15
THE AWAKENING 3 OF 7
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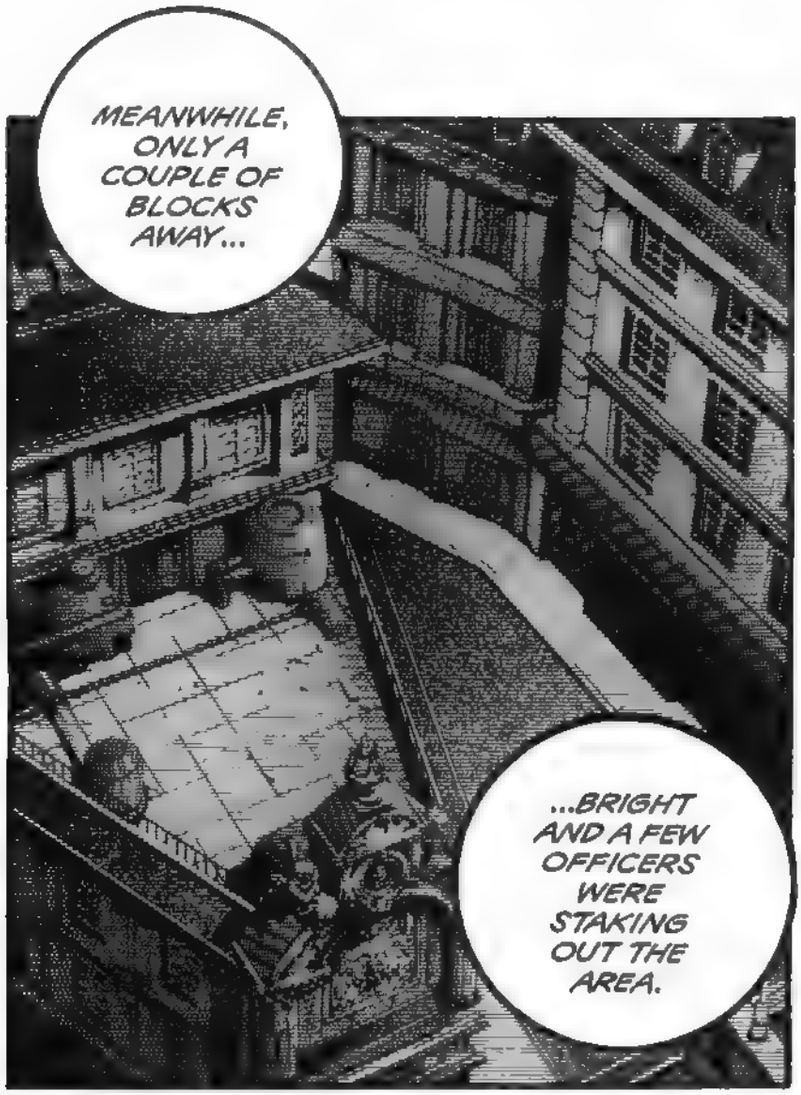
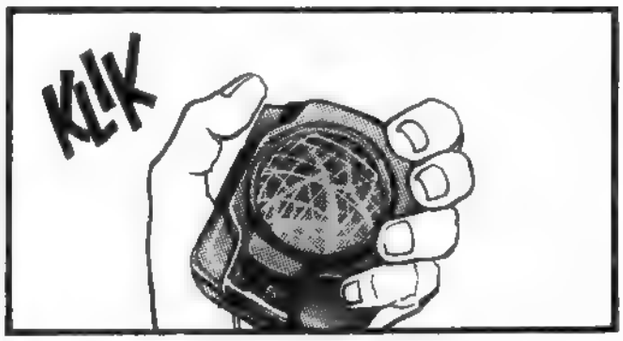
MASAKAZU KATSURA'S
SHADOW LADY
THE AWAKENING
MASAKAZU KATSURA

ANGER
YOU!!
AS AN ENEMY TO ALL WOMANKIND, PREPARE TO RECEIVE YOUR RIGHTFUL PUNISHMENT AT THE HANDS OF SPARK GIRL!!

YOU ARE A FOOL INDEED TO SPEAK TO ME IN THAT MANNER, WOMAN-CHILD!
HMPH!
WHSSH
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT, BUDDY!
OH, NO! I'M SORRY, SPARK GIRL, BUT AT THIS POINT ALL I CAN DO IS WISH YOU LUCK!!

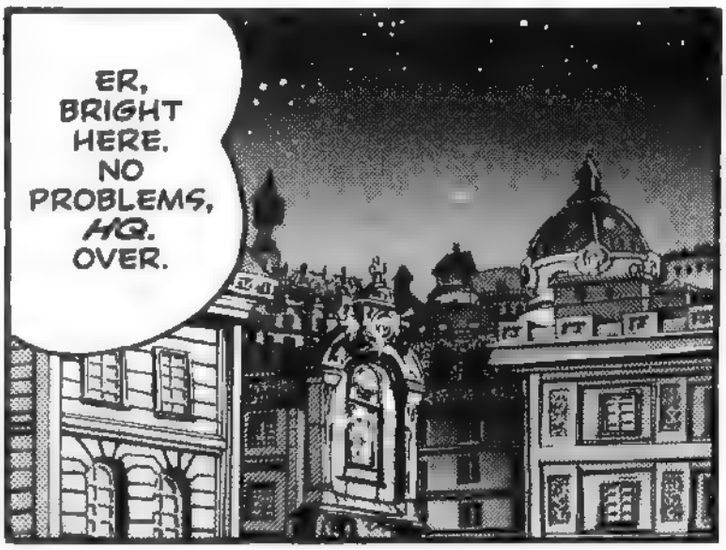

MEANWHILE, ONLY A COUPLE OF BLOCKS AWAY...
...BRIGHT AND A FEW OFFICERS WERE STAKING OUT THE AREA.


KLIK

UH-OH!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
LIME'S OUT PLAYING "SPARK GIRL" AGAIN... WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH THAT KID?!

SHE'S CLOSE... OOLONG STREET, LOOKS LIKE. I BETTER GET OVER THERE AND TELL HER TO KNOCK IT OFF.
BEEP
BEEP
IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING... BRIGHT SLIPPED A TRACER INTO LIME'S "SPARK GIRL" WIG.
(IT ONLY ACTIVATES WHEN IT DETECTS BODY HEAT)

ON THE OTHER HAND... SHE'S MORE THAN A MATCH FOR ANY ORDINARY KIDNAPPER...
KSSSH
HQ CALLING BRIGHT! ALL CLEAR IN RED SECTOR A? OVER.
OOPS!

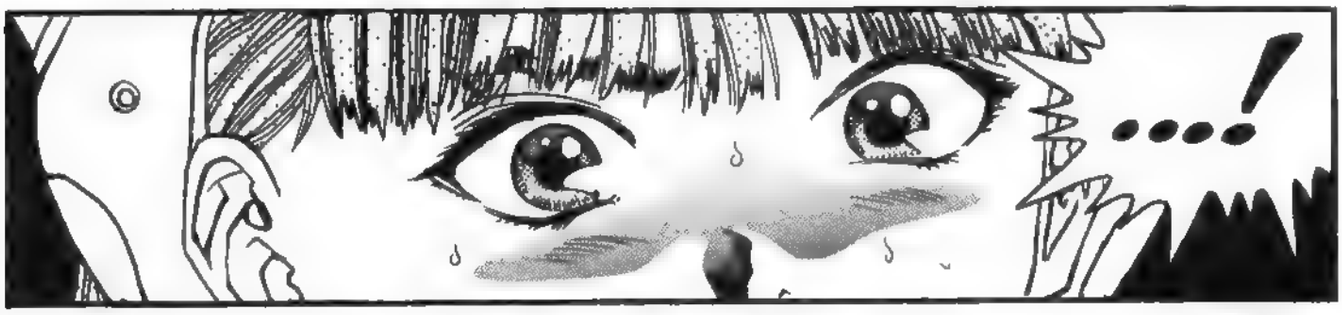

ER, BRIGHT HERE. NO PROBLEMS, HQ. OVER.

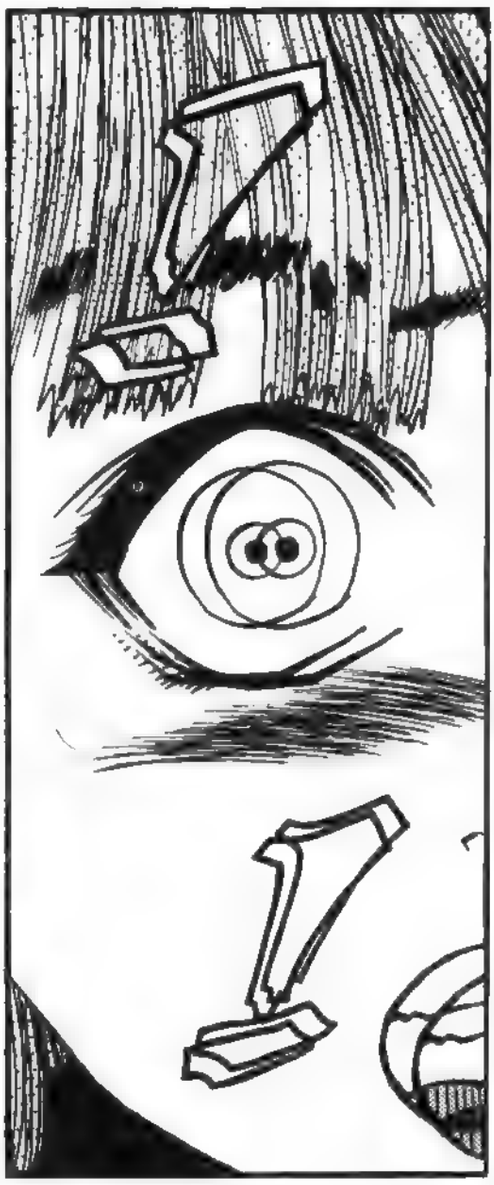
KYAA!
fft
WHOSH
WHAT
WHAT
WHAT
WHAT
I DON'T GET IT/ HER ATTACKS AREN'T HITTING HIM AT ALL!

A... AiMi...
RUN... NOW...
OF COURSE! THEN I CAN--
WHIT
WHIT
EEK!
WHIPP
!!

?!
OH, NO!!
AIMI?!
WHOO
AAGH!
NOW I HAVE YOU, YOU PESKY LITTLE GNAT!

BECAUSE YOU HAVE DRAWN MY BLOOD...
...I HAVE LOST ALL DESIRE FOR YOU!


...!

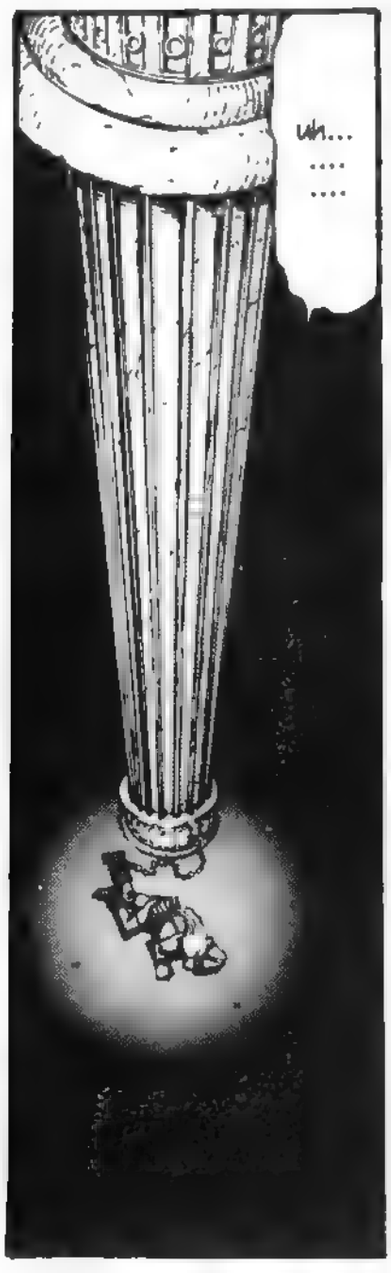


YOU HAVE FOREVER LOST THE HONOR OF BEING PART OF MY COLLEC-TION!
HERE YOU SHALL REMAIN FOR ALL ETERNITY, TO WATCH THE AGES PASS!
KRKK
KRKK
KRKK
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?

SHE... SHE'S TURNING INTO STONE!
D-DAMN YOU!
KCHAK
KCCH
KRAK
PFF
FEAR NOT... IT IS NOT YET YOUR TIME TO BE TRANS-FORMED.
fwipp
AIMI...
POP

I'M... SORRY... I... COULDN'T... SAVE... y--
KRK
KCCH
NYA HAHA HA HA!!
KAK
SNKK

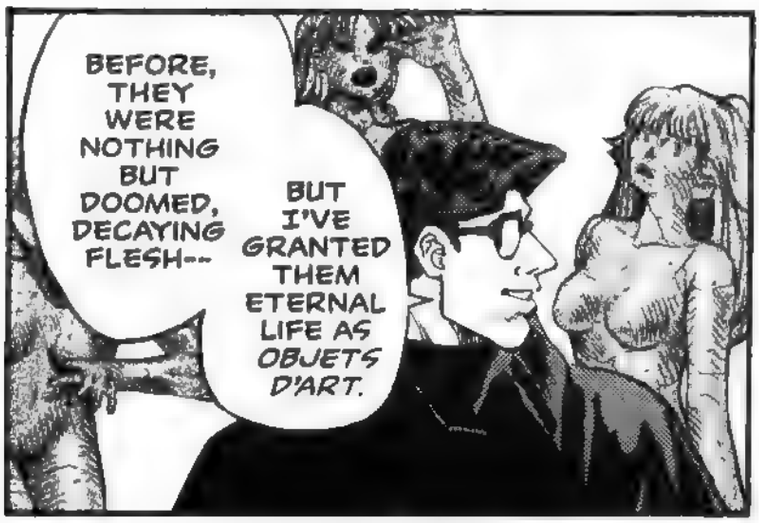
SHARK GIRL
FWHSSHHHHH


uh...
....
....

??
WHERE...

AAH!

WELL? WHAT DO YOU THINK? AREN'T THEY BEAUTIFUL? THEY ARE MY... COLLECTION.


BEFORE, THEY WERE NOTHING BUT DOOMED, DECAYING FLESH--
BUT I'VE GRANTED THEM ETERNAL LIFE AS OBJETS D'ART.

I'M SURE THEY'RE GRATEFUL. AFTER ALL...
...DON'T ALL WOMEN WISH TO STAY BEAUTIFUL FOREVER ...?

Y-YOU! YOU WERE ON TV... THAT KLEIN GUY!

BUT WAIT!
WHAT'S THIS I SEE IN YOUR FACE?!
YOU LOOK AS IF YOU DISAP-PROVE OF MY LITTLE HOBBY!

DAMMIT, WHAT'S WITH YOU WOMEN?!
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SUCH STUCK-UP BITCHES?!
KNAN
I'M RICH! I'M FROM A HIGH-CLASS FAMILY! I'M FAMOUS!
WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT?! HUH?! WHAT? TELL ME!!
DAY AFTER DAY, YEAR AFTER YEAR I'VE DEIGNED TO ASK YOU WOMEN FOR A SIMPLE DATE! WOMAN AFTER WOMAN!
EVEN WOMEN SUCH AS YOU, OF THE LOWER CLASSES! BUT THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS NO!!
NO!
NO!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
HNNG
HHRG

HEH...

BUT THOSE LONELY DAYS ARE OVER.
EVER SINCE I GOT THAT MAGIC JEWEL...

THE DEMON STONE!

...ALL THE WOMEN IN THE WORLD CAN BE MINE.
WELL, NOT THE OLD OR UGLY ONES, OF COURSE.

OBSERVE.
FWAP
MMNG! MMPH!
THIS GIRL TRIED TO RUN AWAY FROM ME, SO I TURNED HER LEGS AND FEET TO STONE.
KONK
MNFF! MNPH!
WHAT? DO YOU BEG PERMISSION TO SPEAK?

=haah=
PLEASE!
PLEASE LET ME GO!!
KRAK
AAH!!
KCSH
BY THE WAY...
...I CAN CONTROL THE LEVEL OF PETRIFACTION AT WILL.
STOP! I CHANGED MY MIND! I'LL DO ANY-THING YOU WANT!
REALLY ...? ANY-THING ...?
Y-YES! I SWEAR!
I SEE. GOOD.

?!
BUT WHO CARES? THERE'S A MILLION MORE LIKE YOU IN THE WORLD!
WHRAK

NYA HA HA! SMASHED TO PIECES!
YOU SCUM!
?

NEXT: "*THE AWAKENING*"...!

MASAKAZU KATSURA
DARK HORSE COMICS
Manga
SHADOW LADY 16
THE AWAKENING 4 OF 7
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SHADOW LADY
THE AWAKENING
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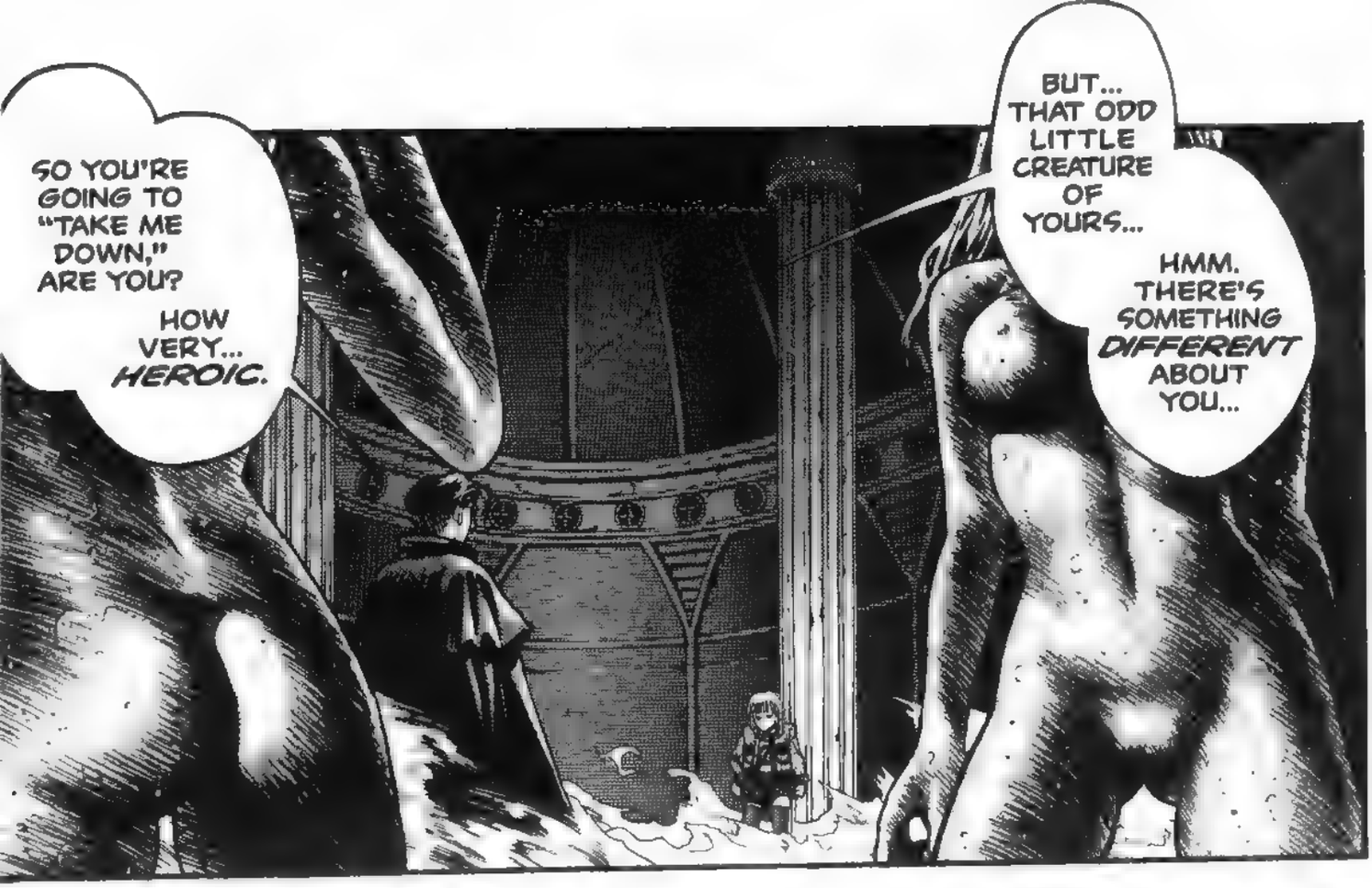
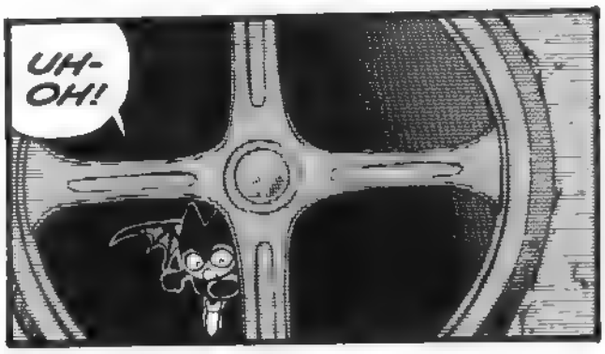
7 61568 98074 5

THE AWAKENING
KRAK
BOY, TALK ABOUT GETTING NO RESPECT!
LOCKING ME UP IN A DUMB OLD BIRD-CAGE!
BKROOOMM
VWHTT
BUT FOR A DEMON THIEF LIKE ME, A CHEAP LOCK LIKE THIS IS A TOTAL JOKE.
CHIK KCHAK!
WHEW... THE POWER IS SO THICK IN HERE YOU COULD CUT IT WITH A KNIFE! THE DEMON STONE'S GOT TO BE HERE, AND I BETTER FIND IT PRONTO!
BUT NOT WITHOUT AIMI!
WHSSHH!


SO YOU'RE GOING TO "TAKE ME DOWN," ARE YOU?
HOW VERY... HEROIC.
BUT... THAT ODD LITTLE CREATURE OF YOURS...
HMM. THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT ABOUT YOU...

VIN SAID I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO TRANSFORM IN FRONT OF OTHER HUMANS.
BUT I'M SURE THIS GUY DOESN'T COUNT! HE'S NOT HUMAN-- HE'S AN ABOMINA-TION!
KLIK


UH-OH!

DAMN IT--I GOTTA MOVE!!
WHSSHH

BWA HAW HAW HAW!
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING?! MAKEUP?!
GOING TO POWDER YOUR NOSE, ARE YOU?!
HEE HEE!
I KNEW ALL YOU WOMEN WERE STUPID, BUT THIS--!!

YOU'RE THE FOOL, KLEIN.
FSSSHHH
IN THE NAME OF ALL THE WOMEN SACRIFICED TO YOUR EVIL...
FSSSHHH
...I SHALL DESTROY YOU!

FWHIP
HRN.
THAT GIRL... COULD SHE BE...?!
WOD
FFFT

TAA-DAH!
PAM
phewww
JUST IN THE NICK A' TIME!

THIS WILD FREEDOM... IT TURNS ME ON!!
OOOOOH! IT'S BEEN TOO, TOO LONG!
OOPSIE!
GEE, SORRY...!
GOOD FOR YOU. NOW-- WOULD YOU MIND GETTING OFF MY HEAD?

SO YOU'RE SHADOW LADY! YOU INSOLENT WENCH!
FLATTERY WILL GET YOU NOWHERE, BUDDY.
ALL RIGHT! STOMP HIM, SHADOW LADY! RIP HIS LUNGS OUT!
WHAAAT?!
GIVE ME A BREAK, DE-MO!
HUH?!
DON'TCHA KNOW VIOLENCE IS SO PASSÉ?! SHADOW LADY'S A CUTTING EDGE SORT OF SUPER-THIEF!
I'LL JUST SNATCH THE STONE, AND THEN IT'S HASTA LA VISTA, BABY!!
NNGRR!
I MEAN, REALLY! WHY WASTE TIME FIGHTING SOME ICKY OLD MONSTER? IT JUST SETS A BAD EXAMPLE FOR THE KIDS! VIOLENCE DOESN'T SOLVE--
ACK!
HOW DARE YOU MOCK ME?!
GRRR!

GNRH!
WHRAK
FOOOFOO
SILLY OL' MONSTER! IF YOU'D JUST BEHAVED YOURSELF, I WOULDN'T HAVE TO DO THAT.
YOU SHALL PAY FOR THIS!
GIVE IT UP!

KRAK
GHK!
FNHAM
C'MON, BUDDY. GRAB A BRAIN, OKAY? YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR ME.
NRRGH...
YES... TRULY... I CAN'T WIN IN A STRAIGHT FIGHT.
BUT HOW ABOUT THIS WAY ?!
WHSSH

BWA HAW HAW HAW!
NOW WHAT?! SURRENDER OR I'LL SMASH THEM ALL!
THEY CAN'T BE BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE ONCE THEY'RE SMASHED!
WHIRRAK
COME ON, SHADOW LADY! COME TO ME ON YOUR KNEES AND APOLOGIZE!
FOR STRIKING ME! FOR BEING RUDE! FOR BEING A WOMAN!!
KRAK SKRAK
?
(!)
FAP

NOW YOU'VE REALLY PISSED ME OFF!!
WHISH

WHRAM
SKSSH
PISSH
YOU'RE A PATHETIC WORM, KLEIN.
FWHSSSHH
RRGH!
AND ONCE I'VE SEALED THE DEMON STONE, YOU'LL BE NOTHING.
YOU THINK THINGS WERE BAD FOR YOU BEFORE?! THEY'RE ABOUT TO GET MUCH, MUCH WORSE.

DAMN! DAMN IT ALL! I DON'T WANT IT TO END LIKE THIS! I'LL BE LEFT WITH NOTHING! LESS THAN NOTHING!!
JEWEL! YOU PROMISED ME POWER! LIMIT-LESS POWER!
YOU SAID YOU WOULD FORCE ALL THE WOMEN IN THE WORLD TO OBEY ME! BUT YOU LIED! SHADOW LADY DEFIES ME! GIVE ME POWER!
WHAM
WHAM
MORE POWER!!
WHAM
DAMN YOU!!
FZZZKKK
THERE! THAT'S THE ROOM! THE DEMON POWER'S COMING FROM IN THERE!
SHEESH... LOOKS LIKE GETTING THIS STONE BACK IS GONNA BE A BREEZE.
HEY ?!
I JUST FELT A HUGE BURST OF POWER FROM THE DEMON STONE-- OFF THE SCALE!
IT'S THAT LOSER, KLEIN-- HIS DEPRAVED DESIRES ARE OUT OF CONTROL! WHEN A DEMON STONE ABSORBS EVIL EMOTIONS, IT AMPLIFIES THEM A HUNDREDFOLD AND EMITS POWER! IN OTHER WORDS, KIDDO--
EVIL DESIRES
DEMON STONE
EVIL POWER
EVIL POWER
EVIL POWER

HE'LL GET STRONGER, TOO?!
YO W!
HRRG
NNGR
HHNG

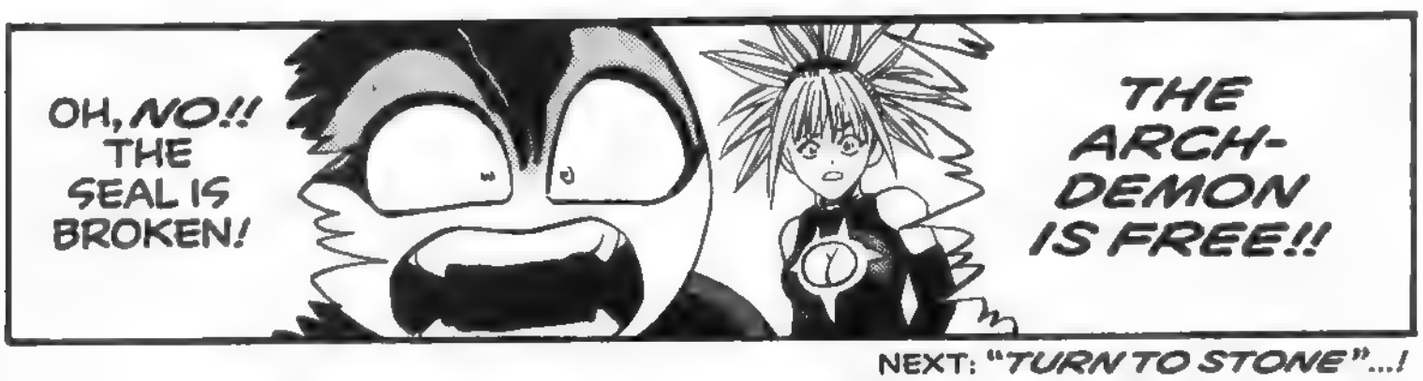
DE-MO! GET THE STONE! QUICKLY!
ON MY WAY!
I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT.
Y'KNOW... I THINK WE MIGHT BE A IN A BIT OF TROUBLE.
NNGR
HHNG
OOH, GRANDMA... WHAT A HUNKY BOD YOU'VE SUDDENLY GOT!
FAIR IS FAIR... THE LEAST I CAN DO IS GIVE YOU A LITTLE PEEK, TOO!
Shhk
NNGRRR!
WHRAM
WELL, IT WAS WORTH A TRY!

WHAM
KRASH
THERE IT IS!
NOW-- THE ISOLA-TION BOX!!
FZZK
RIGHTO! YOU'RE SEALED, BUDDY!
FWHIP
URK ?!

KOOM!
NNGH! D... DE-MO... H- HELP ME...!
I CAN'T MOVE, AIMI! AND THE POWER KEEPS GROW-ING!!
FZZKOFZZK FZZK

OH, NO!! IF HE GETS ANY STRONGER, I WON'T HAVE ANY CHANCE AT ALL!
KOFF
I... I'VE GOT NO CHOICE! I GOTTA GET FREE... OR DIE!!
B- BUT... I... I CAN'T...
WE... WE'RE DEAD ....!
SKRUNCH

KRAAAN
?!
WHAT THE HEY...? HE JUST SORTA... POPPED. WEIRD.
fsssh
AH ?!
WHOOSH!



NEXT: "*TURN TO STONE*"...!

DARK HORSE COMICS
Manga
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THE AWAKENING
SHADOW LADY 17
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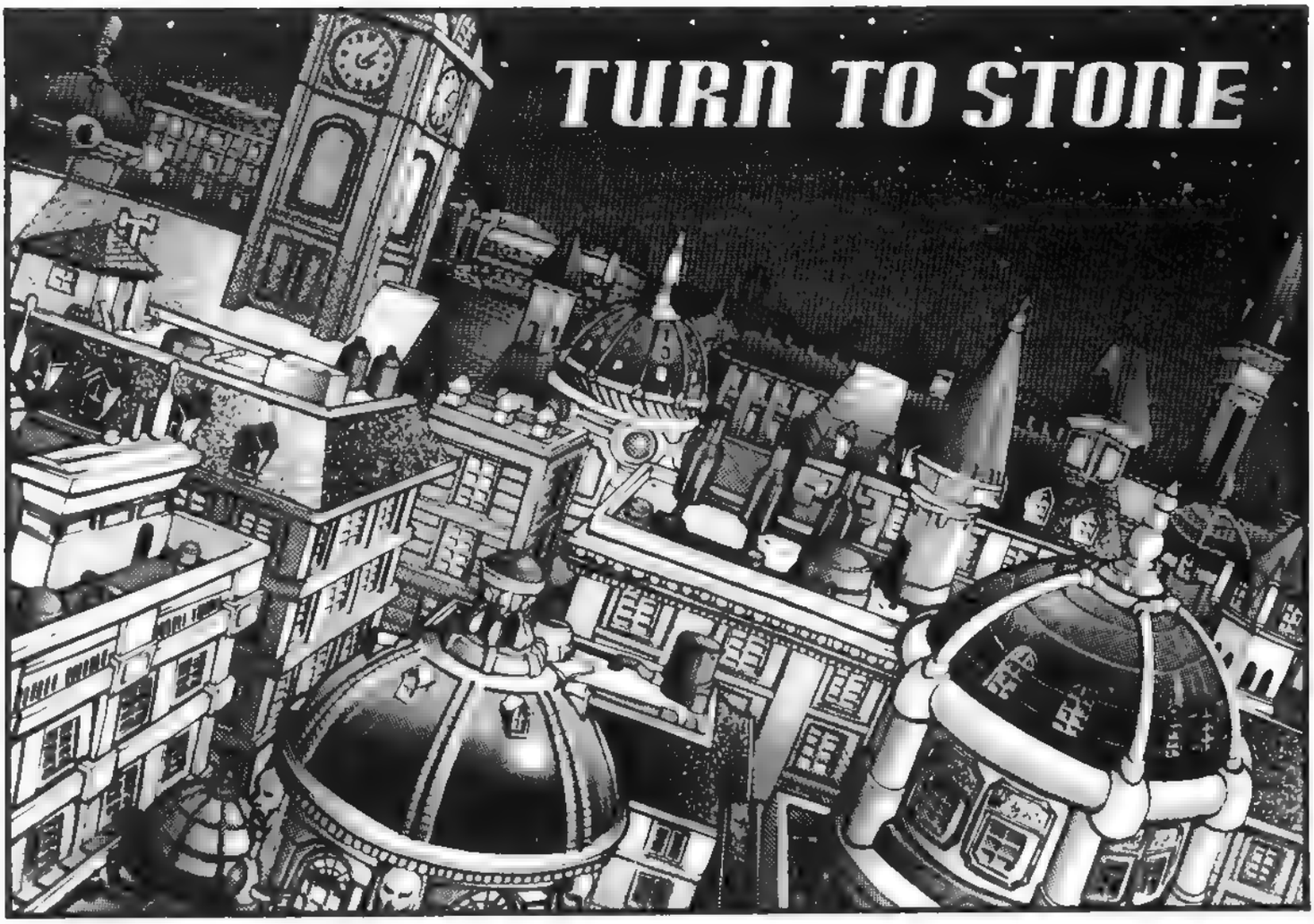
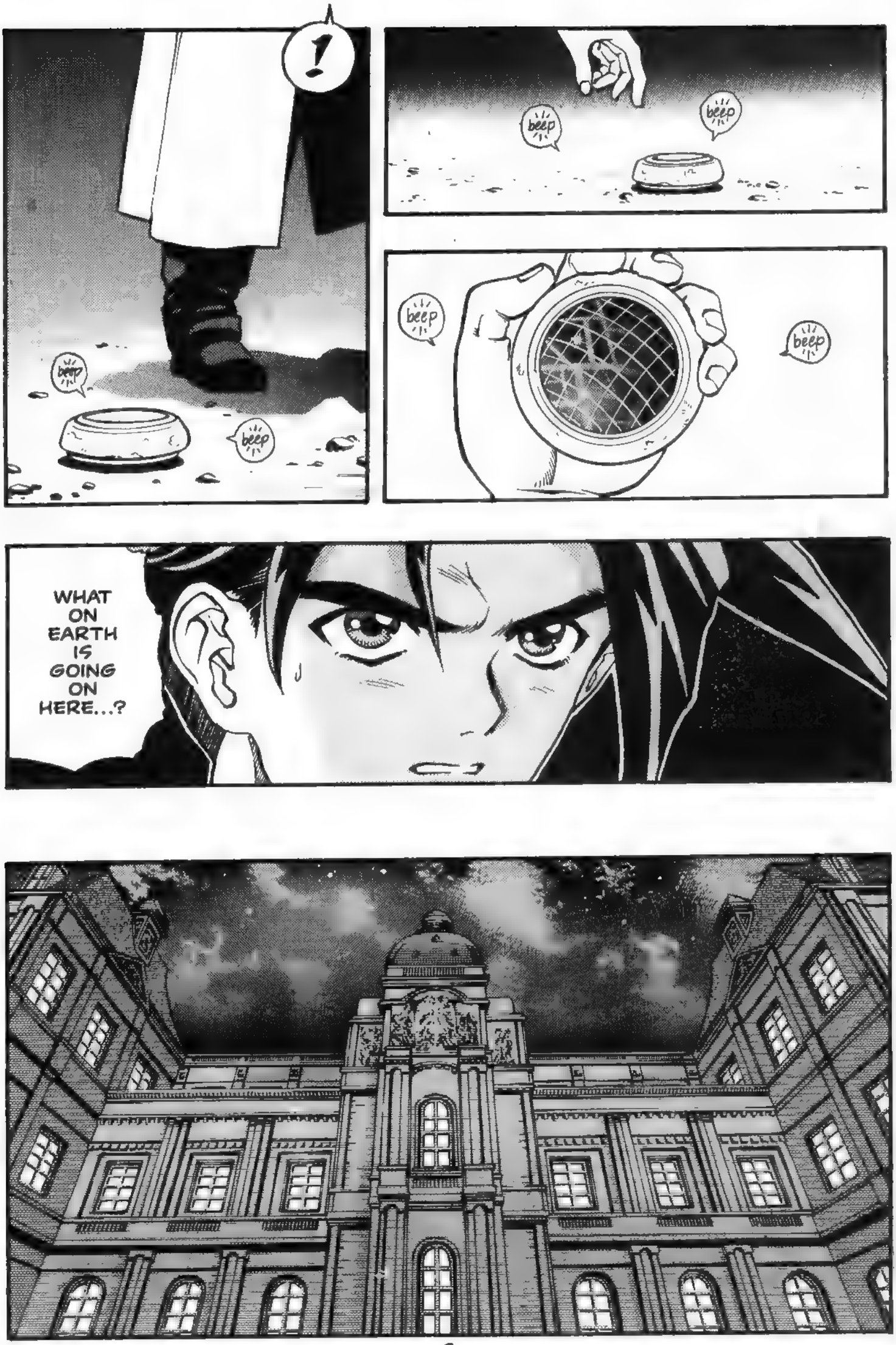
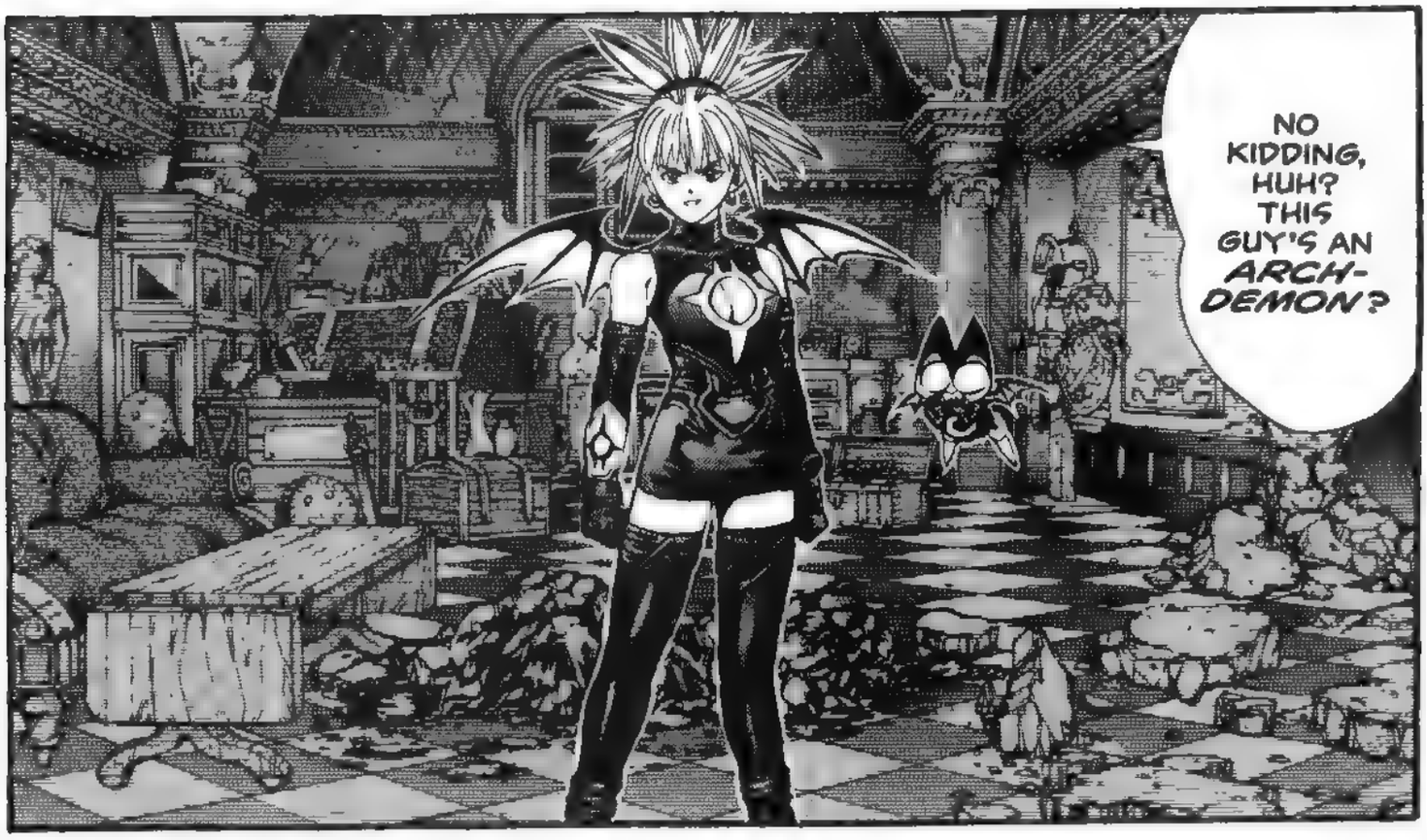

TURN TO STONE

RMBB
=hahh=
LIME ...? ....
=hahh=

WH... WHAT HAP- PENED TO HER ?!
RMBB


!
beep
beep
beep
beep
beep
WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON HERE...?

beep
beep
beep


NO KIDDING, HUH? THIS GUY'S AN ARCH-DEMON?

HERE I WAS WORRIED HALF TO DEATH ABOUT GOING UP AGAINST ONE OF YOU GUYS, AND WHAT DO I SEE? A WIMPY-LOOKING PRETTY BOY!
YOU'LL BE SORRY YOU BUSTED OUT OF THAT JEWEL, PAL! I'M GONNA SQUEEZE YOU LIKE A TUBE OF CHEAP TOOTHPASTE...
OR SOMETHING...

UH... I DON'T THINK HE'S EVEN LISTENING TO YOU, SHADOW LADY.
....
....
LOOK-- LET'S JUST GET THE HECK OUTTA HERE!
OH, MY AIMI... ❤
GRAB A BRAIN, DEMOTA! WHAT'S THE USE OF RUNNING?! IF THE DEMON POLICE FIND OUT THIS GUY'S GOTTEN LOOSE...
YOU'LL BE EXECUTED!
WE'VE GOT TO DEFEAT HIM AND SEAL HIM UP AGAIN, RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!
ARCH-DEMON OR NO ARCH-DEMON, A WIMP LIKE THAT I CAN SQUASH WITH MY LITTLE FINGER!
WHOA!! AIMI, WAIT!!

HA-A!
fft
?!
HHNG!
WH- WHAT THE-?!
MMMMMMM
flik

GMPH!
SWISH

SKRASH
HNNOH!
AIMI !!

YOU'RE LUCKY YOU'RE NOT DEAD! HE COULD'A TURNED YOU TO STONE, YOU KNOW! NOW LET'S PAY OUR RESPECTS TO LADY LUCK, AND... RUN FOR OUR LIVES!
WAIT A MINUTE, DE-MO... YOU MEAN HE HAS THE SAME POWERS KLEIN DID?
HAH! KLEIN WAS ONLY BORROWING A TINY BIT OF THIS GUY'S POWERS!!

HE'S THE ARCH-DEMON MEDU!
DON'T LOOK HIM IN THE EYE! HIS GAZE CAN TURN ANYTHING AND EVERY-THING TO STONE!
LEARNED IT IN DEMON SCHOOL, I DID.
HMM... WASN'T THERE SOMEONE LIKE THIS GUY IN GREEK MYTHOLOGY...? AND THEIR WEAK POINT WAS--
--MIR-RORS!!
FWHP
KSSH
WHA-?!

I DESIRE... FRESH AIR.
KSSH
KSSH
KSSH

AH, HA! HE'S SMASHING EVERY REFLECTING SURFACE IN THE JOINT!
KSSH
GEE WHIZ... JUST THINK OF ALL THE SHINY STUFF IN A MILLIONAIRE'S HOME. WHAT A JOB!
THIS IS NOTHING TO JOKE ABOUT, AIMI!
SKRAK
KSSH
KRAK
KSSH
IT IS MOST REGRETTABLE FOR YOU... BUT NOTHING REFLECTIVE REMAINS IN THIS BUILDING.
RMMBBB
FSSSHHH

RATS...! ISN'T THERE ANYTHING LEFT HERE THAT WOULD REFLECT HIS FACE...?
I CAN HARDLY RUN OFF TO BUY A MIRROR, CAN I...?
...!
YEAH... YEAH! THAT SHOULD WORK!
ONLY... HOW CAN I... HMM...
THAT INSIGNIA UPON YOUR CHEST... YOU ARE NOW THE ONE CALLED SHADOW LADY? YOU ARE DIFFERENT FROM THE SHADOW LADY I ONCE KNEW. AT FIRST I DID NOT KNOW YOU.
AND NOW YA DO! YEAH, I'M THE S-LADY!
QUAKING IN YER BOOTS, ARE YA?! FIGURES!
AIMI, SHUT UP.. PLEASE?!

YOUR POWERS ARE THAT OF A MERE THIEF. YOU CANNOT DEFEAT ME.
AND YET... FEAR NOT. I SHALL DO NOTHING FOR NOW. I SHALL WAIT IN SILENCE UNTIL YOUR FELLOW HUMANS HAVE RESURRECTED MY COMRADES.
YOU NEED NOT RUSH TO DIE FOR THAT MISERABLE LIFE-FORM.
!!
HAH! DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH!!
ARROGANT CREEPS LIKE YOU...
I HATE 'EM!
FSH

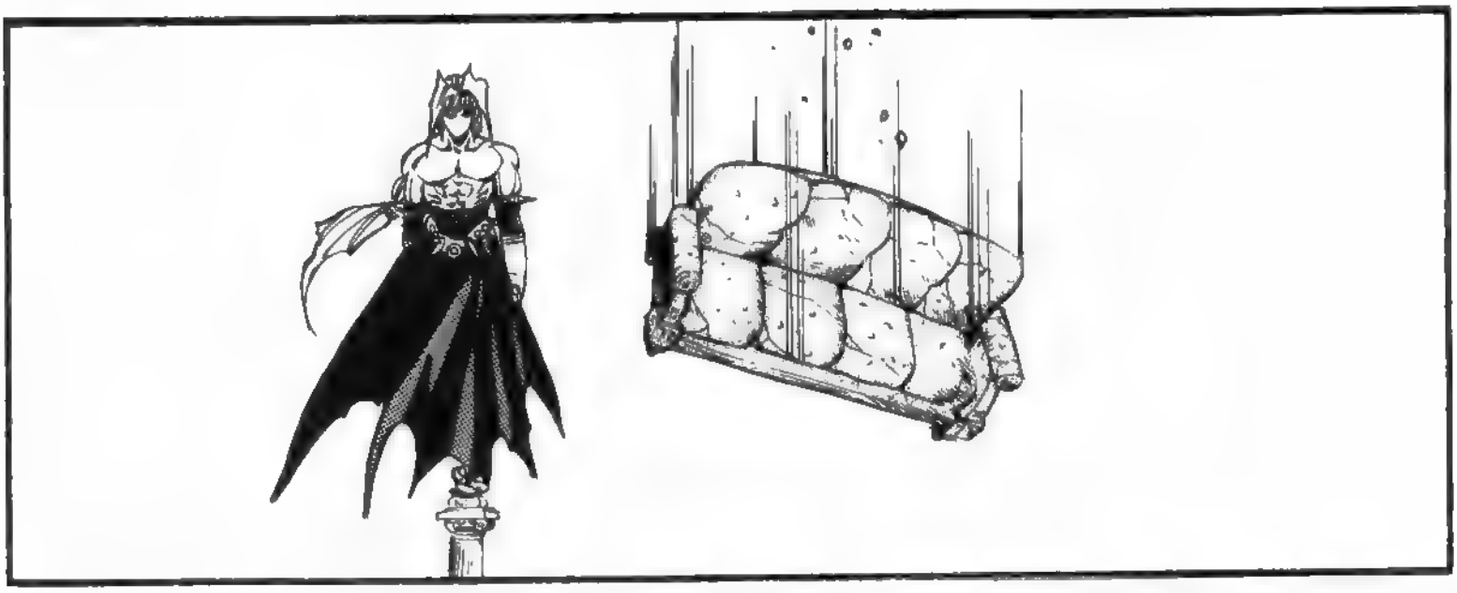
I HAVE NOT YET BEGUN TO FIGHT, MEDU! AND ALL THAT MATTERS IS WHO'S LEFT STANDING AT THE END!
YOU MAY TREAT DEMOTA LIKE HE'S AN INSECT OR SOMETHING, BUT TO ME HE'S MY PRECIOUS LITTLE BROTHER!
I WON'T LET YOU OR ANYBODY KILL HIM! I ABSOLUTELY WILL PUT YOU BACK IN THAT JEWEL!
OH, AIMI... ....
SHUT UP!!
LOOK... I APPRECIATE THE THOUGHT, AIMI, I REALLY DO! BUT IT'S HOPELESS! GET AWAY WHILE YOU CAN!
MM...

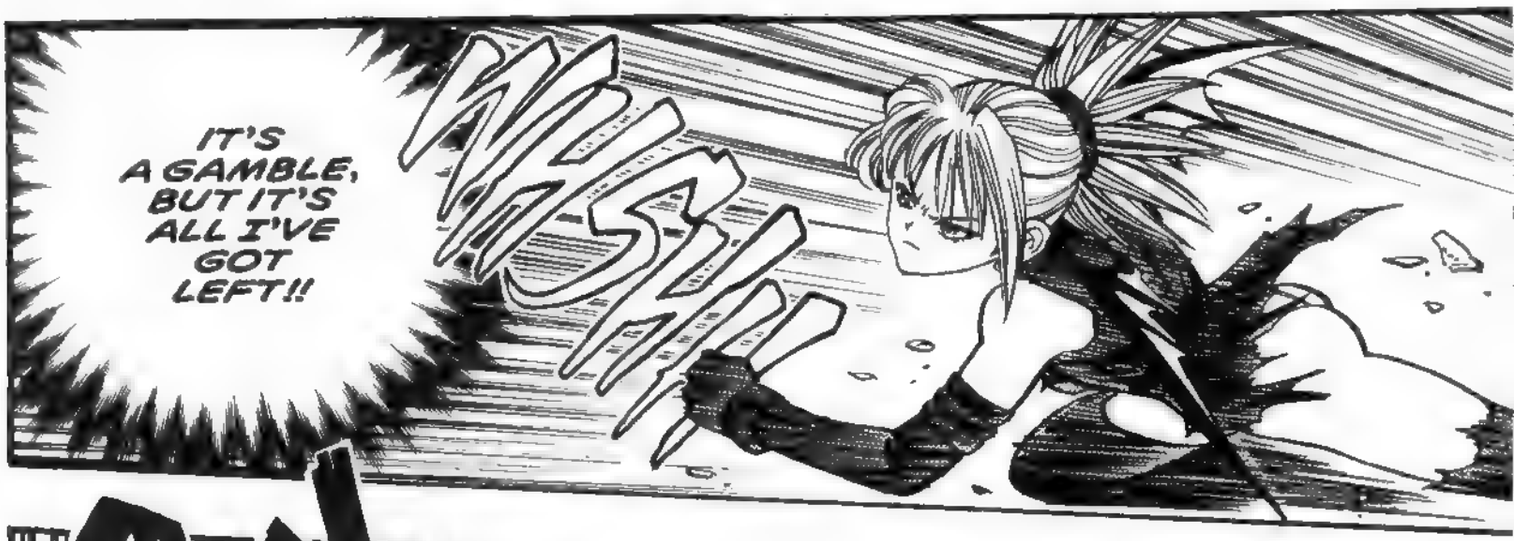
KRAK
KICH
?!
LIFE I CANNOT TURN TO STONE WITHOUT THE MEETING OF EYES... BUT MERE MATTER I CONTROL BY WILL ALONE.
S-SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?! YOU THINK YOU CAN S-STOP ME BY RUINING MY CLOTHES?!
KRKK
HAH!! YOU WON'T GET ME TO GIVE UP SO EASILY! I'LL FIGHT YOU BUCK NAKED, IF I HAVE TO!
BE YOU NAKED, THEN. BUT LEAVE THE CLOTHES ON, AND SOON YOUR FLESH ITSELF SHALL BE AS ROCK.
YOW!
EEK! AIEE! WHY DIDN'T YA SAY SO?!
FWIP
DE-MO! HELP!
FWAP
WAUGH!

KRAK
SPRAK
KRAK
SHRAKK
HEY?! JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE HELPING DOESN'T MEAN YOU GOT A LICENSE TO COP A FEEL, DE-MO!!
S-SORRY, AIMI!
KRAK
SPRAK
KRAK
KSSH
I HAVE NO DESIRE TO CAUSE MEANINGLESS DEATH. THIS SHALL BE MY FINAL WARNING.
COMPOSE YOURSELF, AND DEPART.

=hahh=
=hahh=
=hahh=
NEAT TRICK, PAL. PRETTY IMPRES-SIVE.
BUT YOU KNOW, I THINK I'VE FIGURED OUT HOW TO TAKE YOU DOWN!
HEH HEH
HUH? REALLY, AIMI?!
B-BUT... HOW?

EAT SOFA, YOU PERVERT FREAK!!
RRRRGH!
YAK! SHE'S JUST PLAIN LOST IT!
I WAS A DOPE FOR BELIEVING HER!
HRRG!
FWISH!
PATHETIC FOOL.
ZZK
KRK
YES!!




IT'S A GAMBLE, BUT IT'S ALL I'VE GOT LEFT!!
WHSH!!

SKAK

FWAK

THAP

RR!
ENOUGH!
FZZK
DAMN!
SHAKK
KRKK

SHING
HRNG!
KRKR
POLISHED BLACK MARBLE, BUDDY!! AS GOOD AS A MIRROR!!
YOU BLEW IT, MEDU!!
KRKK

NEXT: *"HOPE"...!*

DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga

SHADOW LADY 18

THE AWAKENING 6 OF 7

$2.50 US
$3.75 CAN

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MASAKAZU KATSURA'S

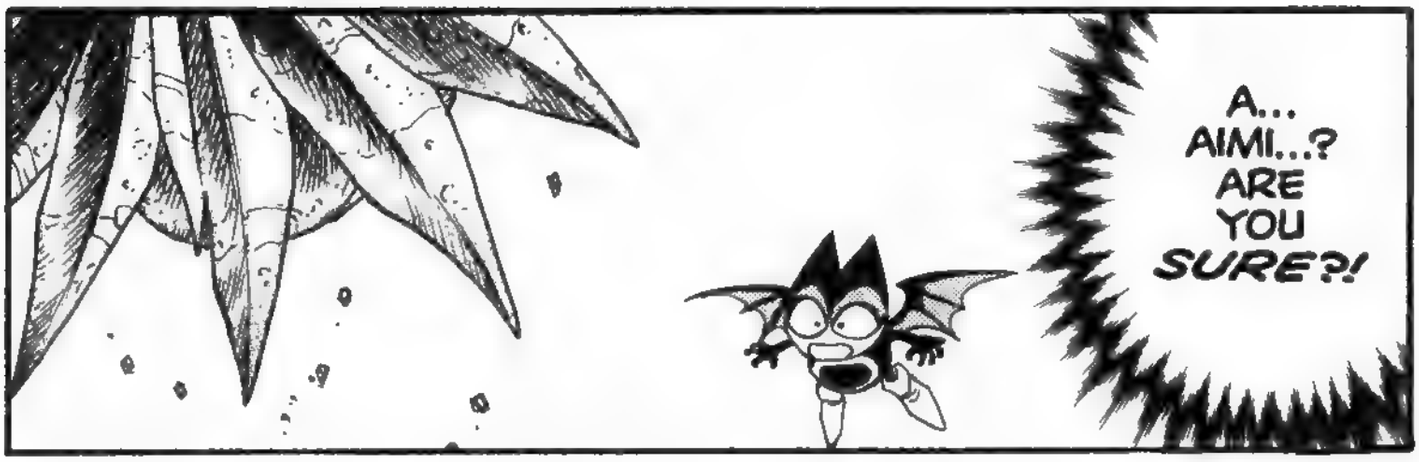
SHADOW LADY

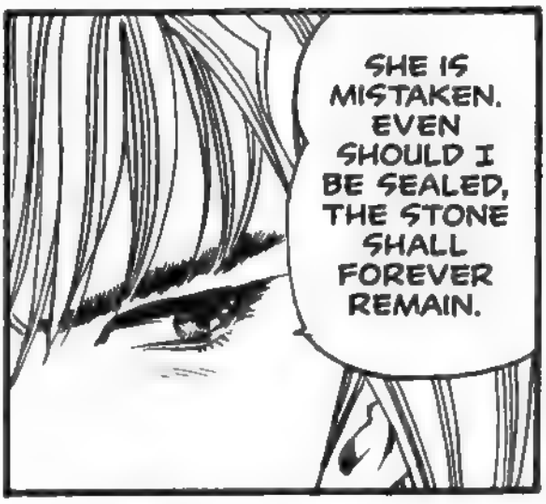
THE AWAKENING

MASAKAZU KATSURA

HAH! I WIN!!
KCCH
HOPE
YOU CONFUSE VICTORY WITH A DRAW.
KKKK

NOPE! ONCE YOU'RE SEALED, YOUR MAGIC IS UNDONE, AND I'M BACK TO NORMAL!
THAT'S HOW IT ALWAYS WORKS!
B- BUT AIMI--!
SEE YA, DE-MO...
GONNA SAY... GOOD-BYE FOR... JUST A...
LITTLE... WHI--

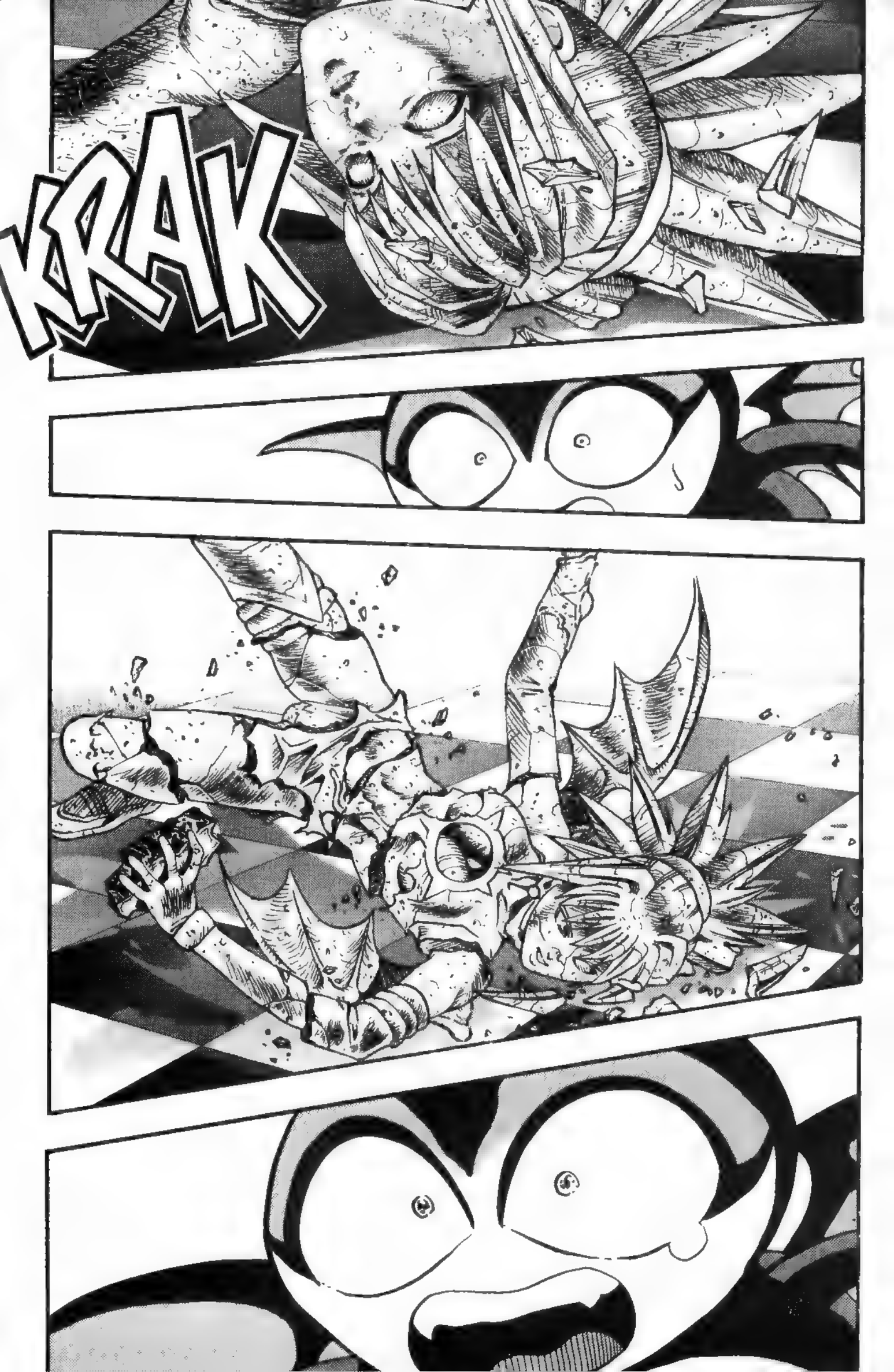

A... AIMI...? ARE YOU SURE?!


SHE IS MISTAKEN. EVEN SHOULD I BE SEALED, THE STONE SHALL FOREVER REMAIN.

KRAK

EH?! NO!!

NOR IS THAT ALL. I SHALL NOT BE SEALED.


KRAK

!!!
SKRASSH

AHH!!
KRAK
SSHH
NOOO! THIS ISN'T HAPPEN-ING!! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPEN-ING!
IT'S MY FAULT!
IT'S ALL MY FAULT!
AAGH!
....
....
CURIOUS. YOU ARE PASSING STRANGE, THE TWO OF YOU.

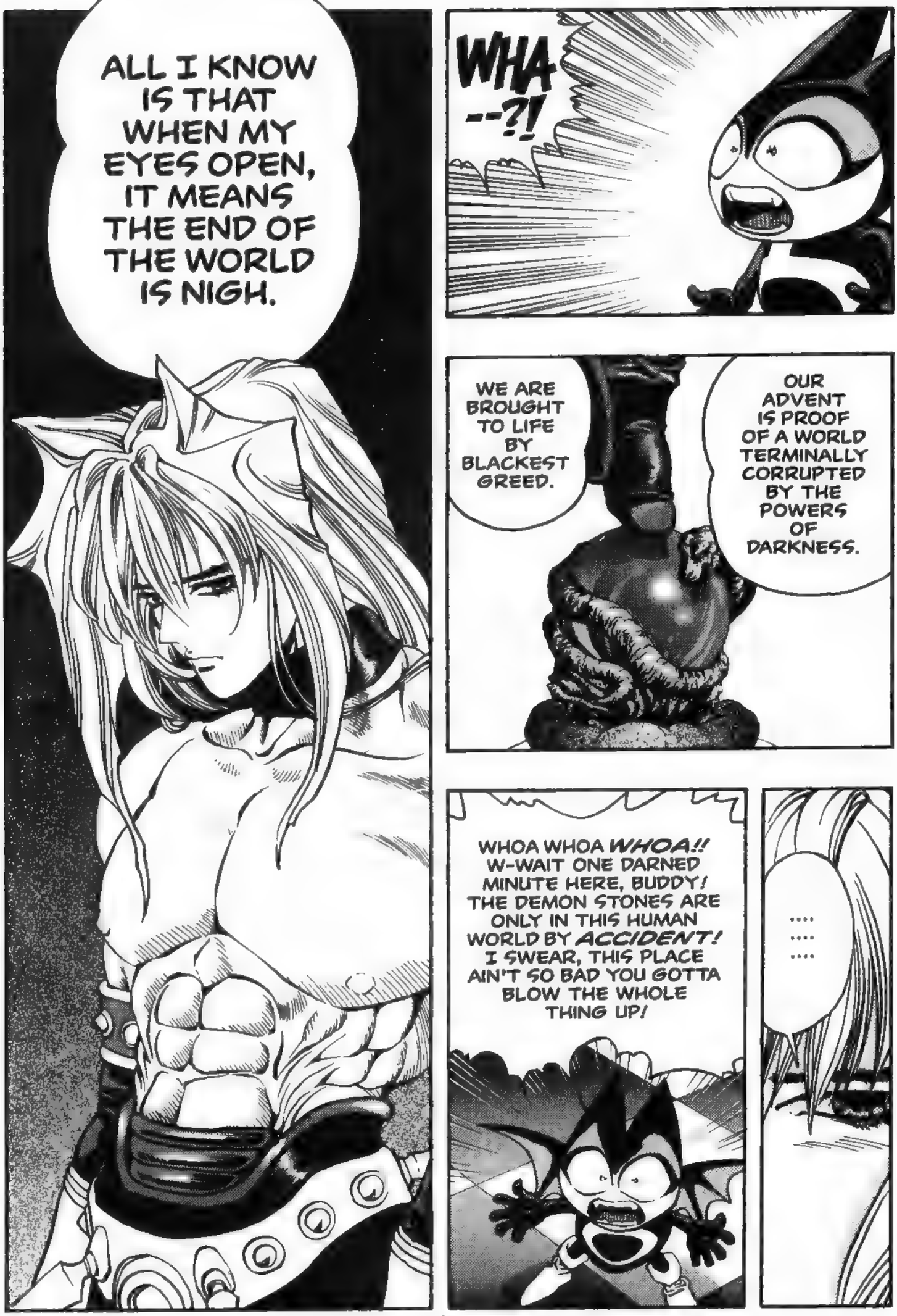
BEEP
BEEP
AM!!!

RMBB
RMBB
RMBB
BEEP
BEEP
HEY... I KNOW THIS PLACE!

ISN'T THIS KLEIN HANAYAMA'S MANSION ...?
BUT THE SIGNAL'S COMING FROM HERE-- NO MISTAKE.

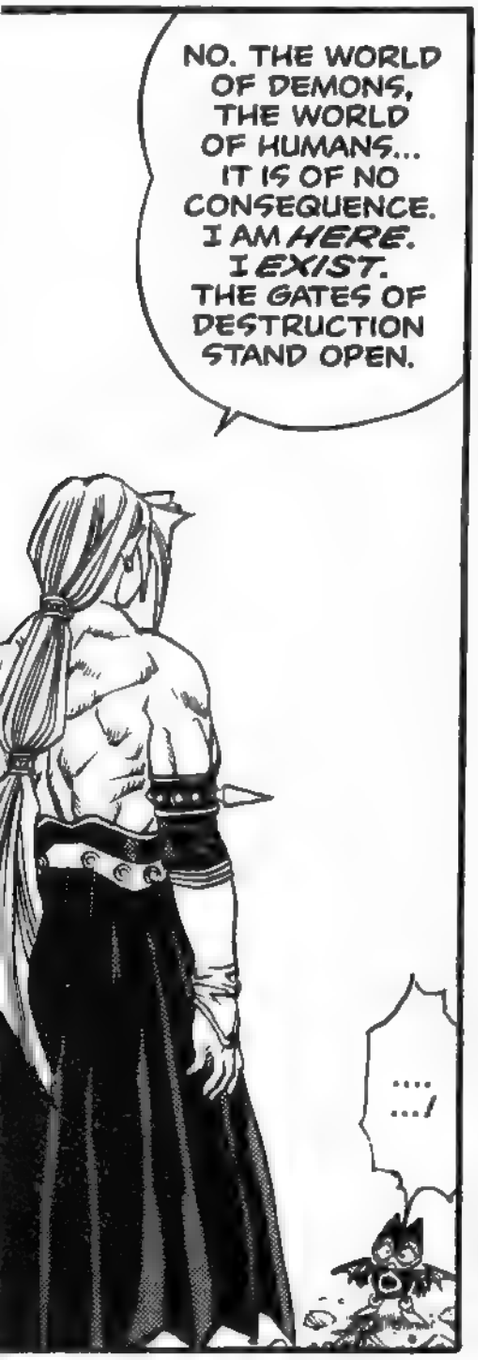
THIS WHOLE THING IS GETTING COM-PLETELY CRAZY...
BEEP
BEEP

FZZKK
SO NOW YOU GONNA KILL ME,TOO?! THEN COME ON, PAL! JUST DO IT, WHY DON'T YA?!
AS I SAID BEFORE...
...I DESPISE WASTE.
THERE IS NO SENSE IN KILLING YOU NOW.
....
....
DAMN YOU ARCH-DEMONS! WHAT THE HECK IS YOUR PURPOSE, ANYWAY?!
"PURPOSE"...? FOR US, THAT WORD HAS NO MEANING.
....
....

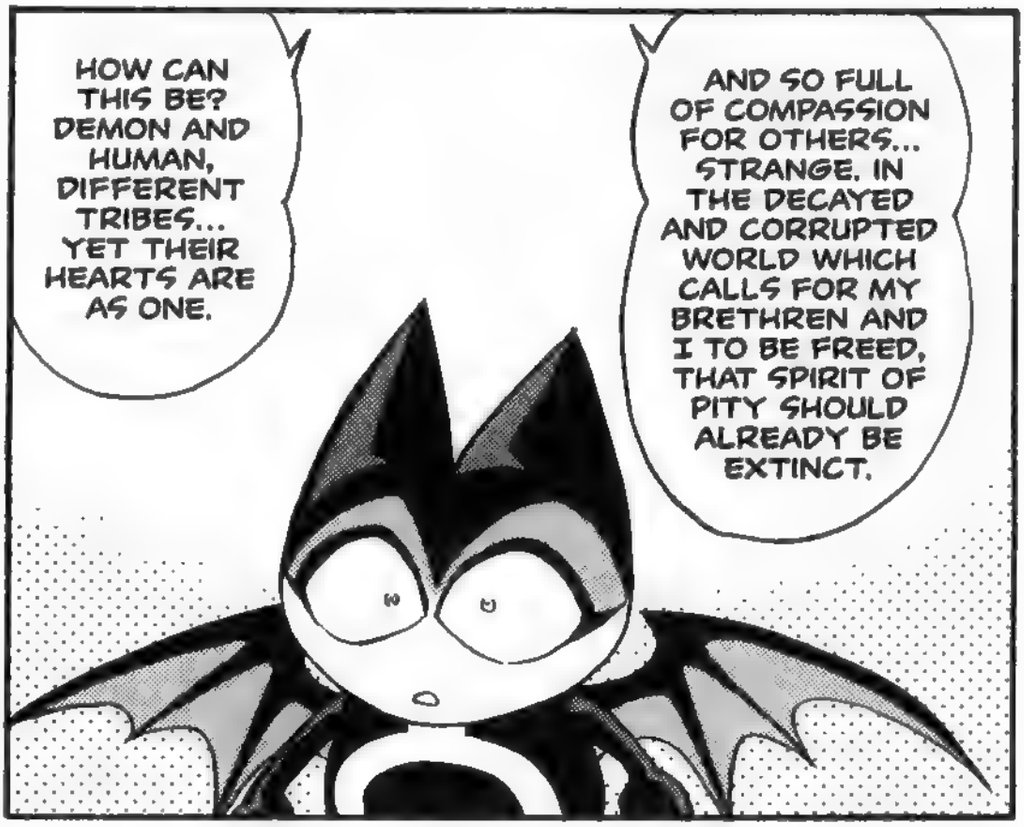

ALL I KNOW IS THAT WHEN MY EYES OPEN, IT MEANS THE END OF THE WORLD IS NIGH.
WHA --?!
WE ARE BROUGHT TO LIFE BY BLACKEST GREED.
OUR ADVENT IS PROOF OF A WORLD TERMINALLY CORRUPTED BY THE POWERS OF DARKNESS.
WHOA WHOA WHOA!! W-WAIT ONE DARNED MINUTE HERE, BUDDY! THE DEMON STONES ARE ONLY IN THIS HUMAN WORLD BY ACCIDENT! I SWEAR, THIS PLACE AIN'T SO BAD YOU GOTTA BLOW THE WHOLE THING UP!
....
....
....

BESIDES, THE STONES BELONG IN THE DEMON WORLD, RIGHT? I MEAN, DON'T YA THINK IT'S WEIRD THEY'RE HERE AT ALL? HUH?!
LOOK... THINGS JUST GOT ALL MIXED UP, OKAY? SO, C'MON--LET YOURSELF BE SEALED UP AGAIN LIKE A GOOD LITTLE ARCH-DEMON!

....
....


NO. THE WORLD OF DEMONS, THE WORLD OF HUMANS... IT IS OF NO CONSEQUENCE. I AM HERE. I EXIST. THE GATES OF DESTRUCTION STAND OPEN.
....
...!

AND YET... IT IS NOT THAT I AM DEAF TO YOUR WORDS.
OBSERVING THE CURIOUS BOND BETWEEN YOU AND THE SHADOW LADY... I, TOO, KNOW DOUBT.


HOW CAN THIS BE? DEMON AND HUMAN, DIFFERENT TRIBES... YET THEIR HEARTS ARE AS ONE.
AND SO FULL OF COMPASSION FOR OTHERS... STRANGE. IN THE DECAYED AND CORRUPTED WORLD WHICH CALLS FOR MY BRETHREN AND I TO BE FREED, THAT SPIRIT OF PITY SHOULD ALREADY BE EXTINCT.

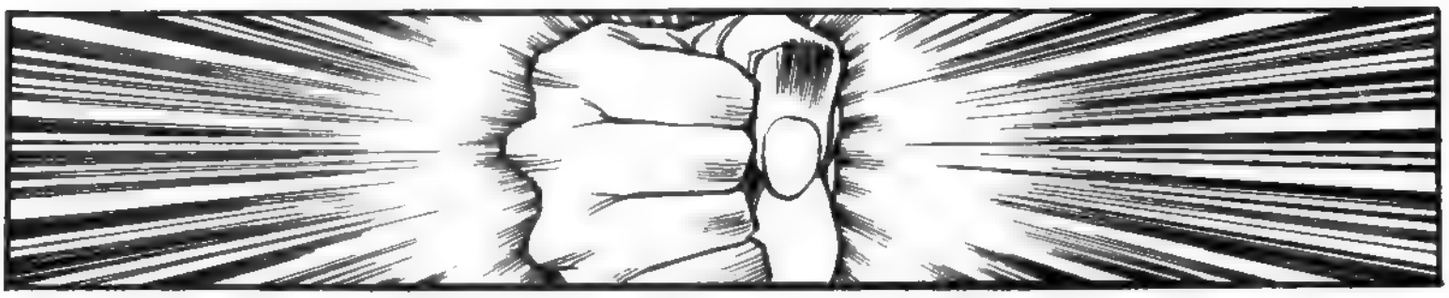
VERY WELL. I GRANT THEE A SECOND CHANCE.
?!?
WH... WHERE AM I?!
EEK!
I'M NAKED!

EEK!
!?!
POP
EEK!
WHAT
WHAT
WHAT
WHAT?!
FWHDD
OHHH E!

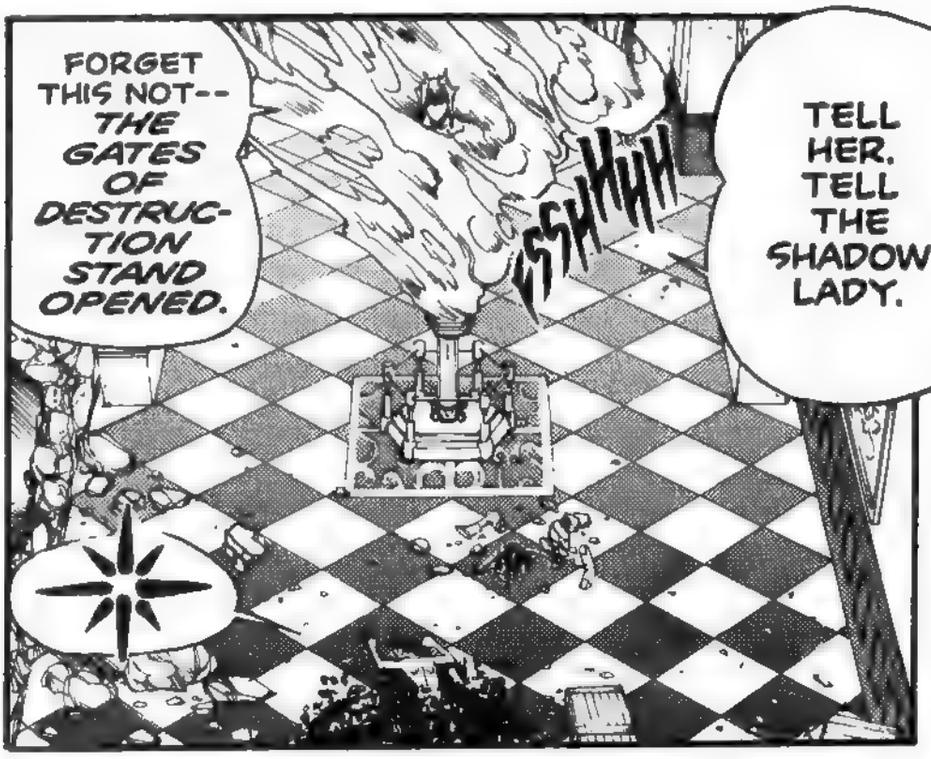
THERE. I HAVE RESTORED THE VICTIMS OF THE CORRUPTED KLEIN.
TIME LEADS ALL TO FINAL DESTRUCTION. UNTIL THEN, I DESIRE NO MEANINGLESS DEATH.
IF YOU SUCCEED IN SEALING THE DEMON STONES, SO BE IT.
BUT KNOW YOU THAT WHEN THIS WORLD OVERFLOWS WITH EVIL AND MY FOUR COMRADES AND I WALK AGAIN UPON THE EARTH... THEN SHALL BE THE TIME OF FINAL UNDOING.
Up!
I HAVE ERASED THE MEMORIES OF THE KIDNAPPED FEMALES.
I DESIRE NO TURMOIL. I SHALL WATCH WHAT TRANSPIRES, IN SILENCE.
YOU WIPED THEIR MEMORIES...? HEH, HEH... THANKS,BUDDY! THAT MEANS MY CRIMES ARE ERASED, TOO!

KLEIN?! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?!
SPRAK
MEDU, IS IT...? FRIEND, ALLY... GIVE ME THE POWER AGAIN! I BROUGHT YOU BACK TO LIFE, DIDN'T I? SO YOU OWE ME THAT MUCH, RIGHT? HEH, HEH...
WHAT'S IT LOOK LIKE, BOZO?
!!
URK!!
SHHH
KR
AH!

IF THE REMAINING STONES ARE ALSO IN THE HANDS OF DEPRAVED CREATURES SUCH AS THIS...
GNNCH
...THEN IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE MY COMRADES AWAKE.



HRRK!


FORGET THIS NOT-- THE GATES OF DESTRUC-TION STAND OPENED.
SSHHHH
TELL HER. TELL THE SHADOW LADY.

HUH?! BUT... ?!?

EEEKKK
AAH?!
EEKK
!!
!?!
TA-
DA
AH!
WHIP
HA HA HA! WAS I RIGHT, OR WHAT?! WE'VE SEALED ONE OF THE DEMON STONES!

AIM!!!
EEP!
WATCH IT WITH THE HANDS, PAL! I'M NOT THAT OUT OF IT, YOU PERVERTED LITTLE SEX DEMON!!
POW
HMM... I BETTER DO SOMETHING ABOUT THESE CLOTHES. NO WONDER DE-MO IS OUT OF CONTROL!
FRESHEN UUP!
FSSSSHHHH
THERE!!
SHE'S WRONG, BUT HEY... THAT'S FINE BY ME. MY AIMI'S BACK!
NNNG... H- HELP... HELP ME...
!
KLEIN?! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?!

HMPH. JUST BARELY, IT LOOKS LIKE.
GIVE IT UP, SCUMBAG... TIME FOR YOU TO DIE!!
EEK! EEK!
?? THAT VOICE ...?
NNGAH!
IRRK
FWOOSH
?!
KLEIN ...?!

NOW, THEN... LET'S SEE THAT STONE... HUH?
HEY! IT'S NOT IN THE BOX! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, DE-MO?
UH, ER... ACTUALLY... Y'SEE...
I... I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!!
WHY, SHADOW LADY?! WHY DID YOU KILL POOR MR. HANA-YAMA?!

NEXT: "*MISUNDERSTANDING*"...!

DARK HORSE COMICS
Manga
SHADOW LADY 19
THE AWAKENING 7 OF 7
$2.50 US
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MASAKAZU KATSURA'S
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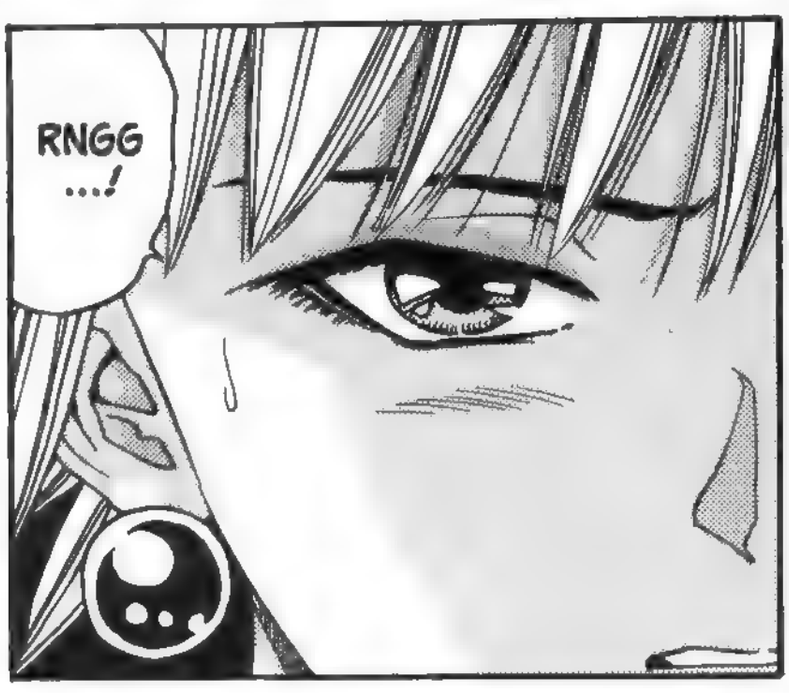
MISUNDERSTANDING

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS, SHADOW LADY?!

WELL, YOU SEE... WHAT HAP-PENED IS... ER...
SHOULD ANYONE FIND OUT ABOUT US, THE DEMON STONES, OR EVEN THE SECRET IDENTITY OF SHADOW LADY--THEN NOT ONLY WILL DE-MO BE IMMEDIATELY EXECUTED, BUT YOU WILL FOLLOW HIM IN DEATH!


RNGG
...!

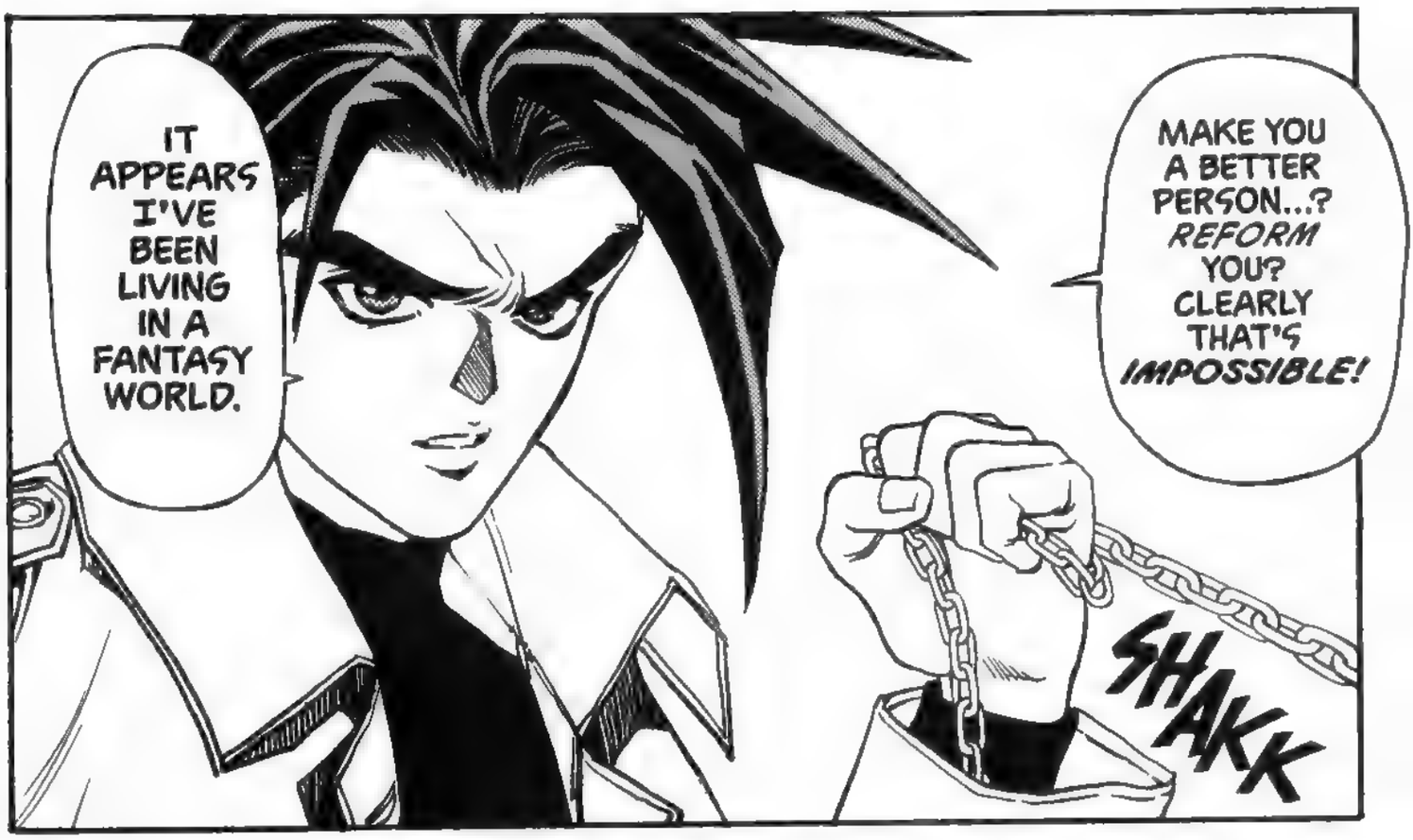
....
....

WHY? WHY DID YOU KILL HIM ...?
FWOO
B-BUT... IT WASN'T ME!
....
....
....
....
YOU'LL NEVER CATCH SHADOW LADY AS LONG AS YOU HAVE SUCH AMBIVALENT FEELINGS TOWARDS HER IN YOUR HEART!
AND BESIDES... UM... THAT KLEIN GUY WAS REALLY A TOTAL SCUMBAG!! REALLY! I SWEAR!
I MEAN, UH, SURE, HE SEEMED TO BE AN UPSTANDING YOUNG CITIZEN, BUT REALLY HE--

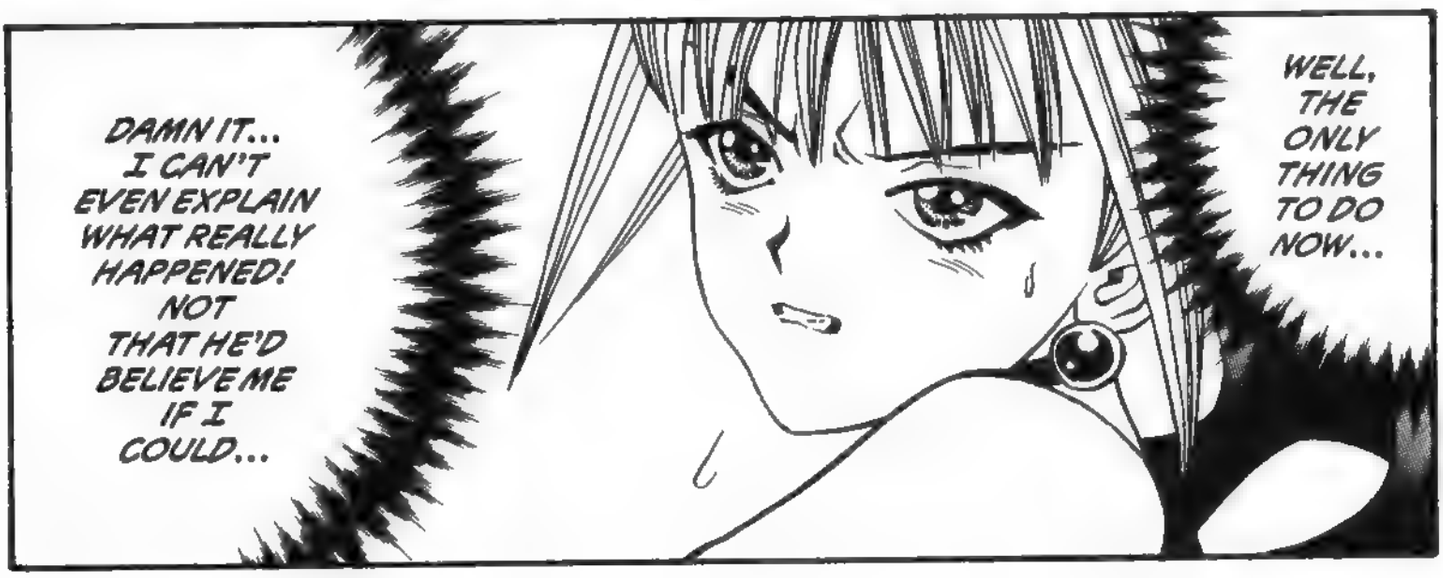
WHSS

KWAFF

KUAA!


IT APPEARS I'VE BEEN LIVING IN A FANTASY WORLD.
MAKE YOU A BETTER PERSON...? *REFORM* YOU? CLEARLY THAT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!*
SHAKK

SHADOW LADY!
I'M PLACING YOU UNDER ARREST FOR *MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE!*

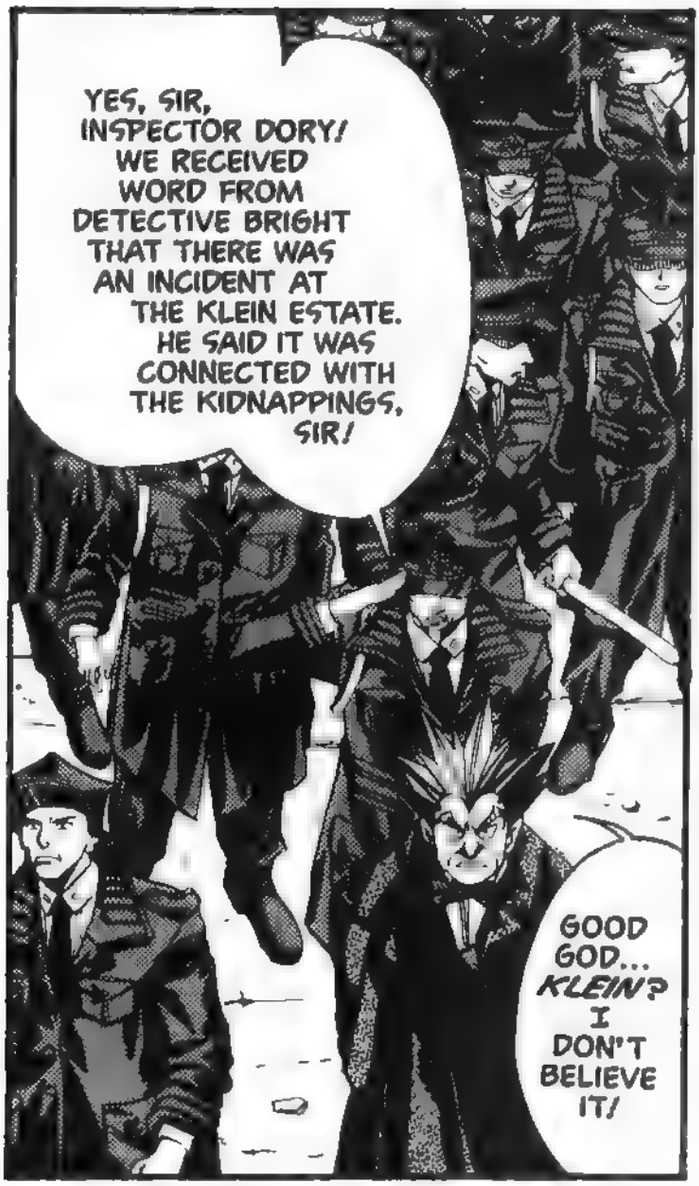

DAMN IT... I CAN'T EVEN EXPLAIN WHAT REALLY HAPPENED! NOT THAT HE'D BELIEVE ME IF I COULD...
WELL, THE ONLY THING TO DO NOW...

HAH! MAKE ME LAUGH!
THAP
WHIPP
!!
DON'T TELL ME YOU SERIOUSLY THOUGHT YOU COULD CATCH ME WITH THIS THING?!
NNG!

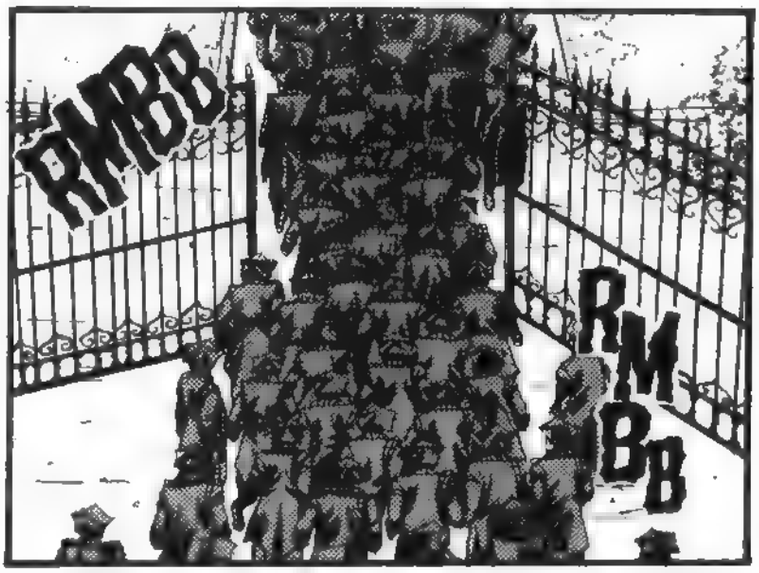
THP
IT... IT'S A SHAME. I THOUGHT MAYBE WE COULD BE FRIENDS...
NO! WAIT!
WAIT!
SHADOW LADY ...!!

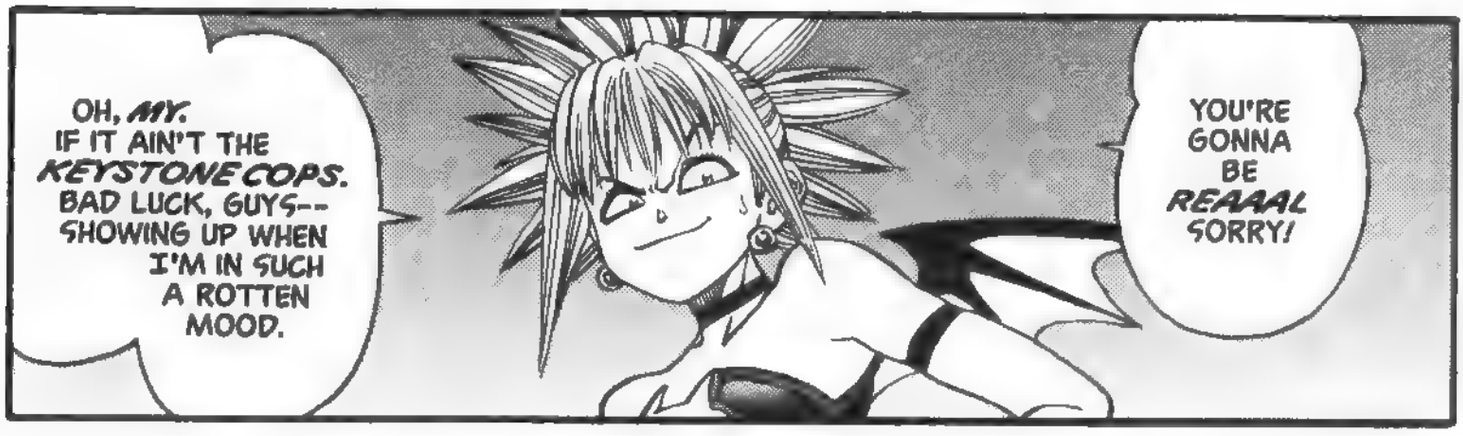
....
....
DAMMIT DAMMIT DAMMIT! IT'S DRIVING ME CRAZY! I HATE NOT BEING ABLE TO TALK!
AND THAT DARN BRIGHT! THANKS A HEAP, BUDDY! TREATING ME LIKE... LIKE SOME COMMON CRIMINAL!
AAARGH!
WEEOOO
WEEOOO
SKREEK
AH?!

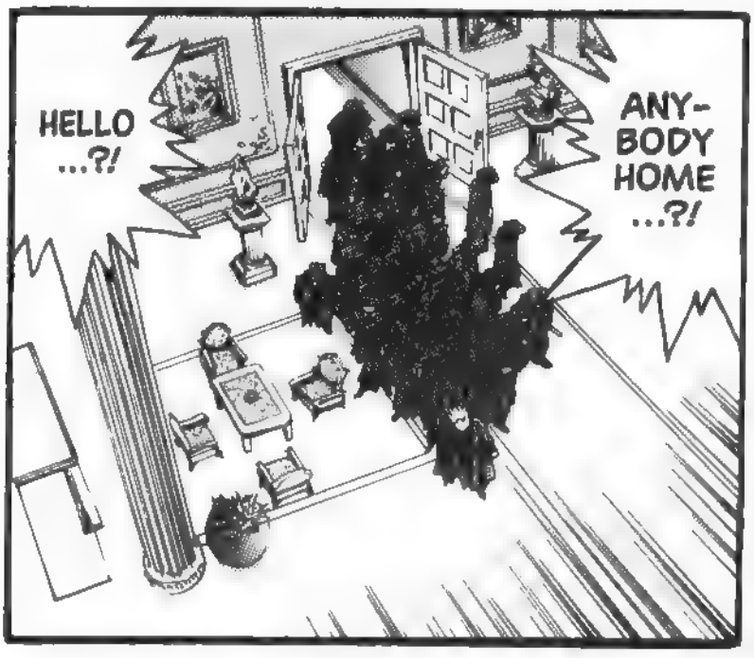
ARE YOU SURE THIS IS THE PLACE?!


YES, SIR, INSPECTOR DORY! WE RECEIVED WORD FROM DETECTIVE BRIGHT THAT THERE WAS AN INCIDENT AT THE KLEIN ESTATE. HE SAID IT WAS CONNECTED WITH THE KIDNAPPINGS, SIR!
GOOD GOD... KLEIN? I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

NO ONE'S ANSWERING THE BELL, SIR.
WELL, THEN WE HAVE NO CHOICE. FORCE YOUR WAY IN.


RMBB
RMBB

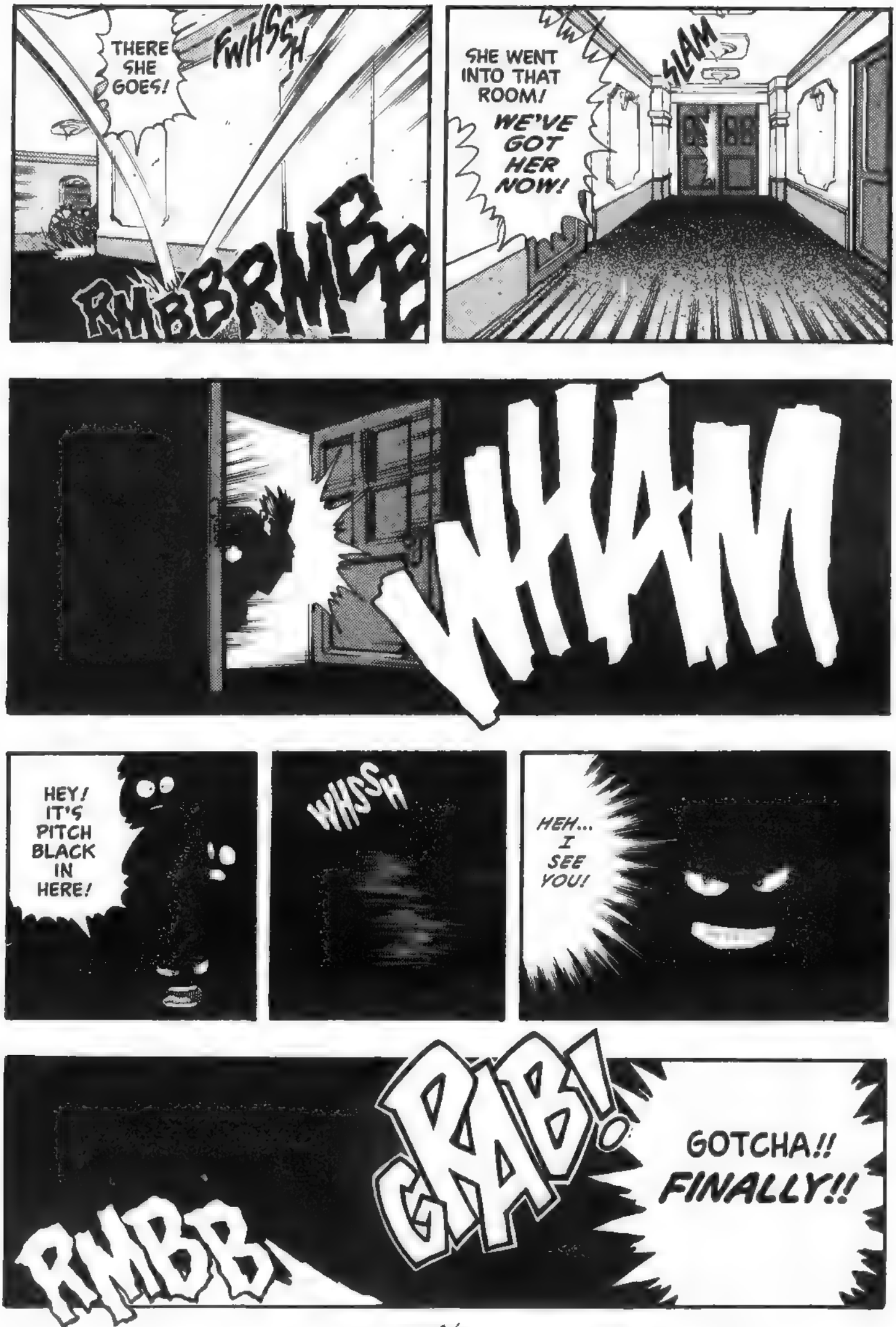

OH, MY. IF IT AIN'T THE KEYSTONE COPS. BAD LUCK, GUYS-- SHOWING UP WHEN I'M IN SUCH A ROTTEN MOOD.
YOU'RE GONNA BE REAAAL SORRY!


HELLO ...?!
ANY-BODY HOME ...?!

THIS IS THE GRAY CITY POLICE! IS MISTER KLEIN IN ...?!

FWHIP
FWHIP
FWHIP

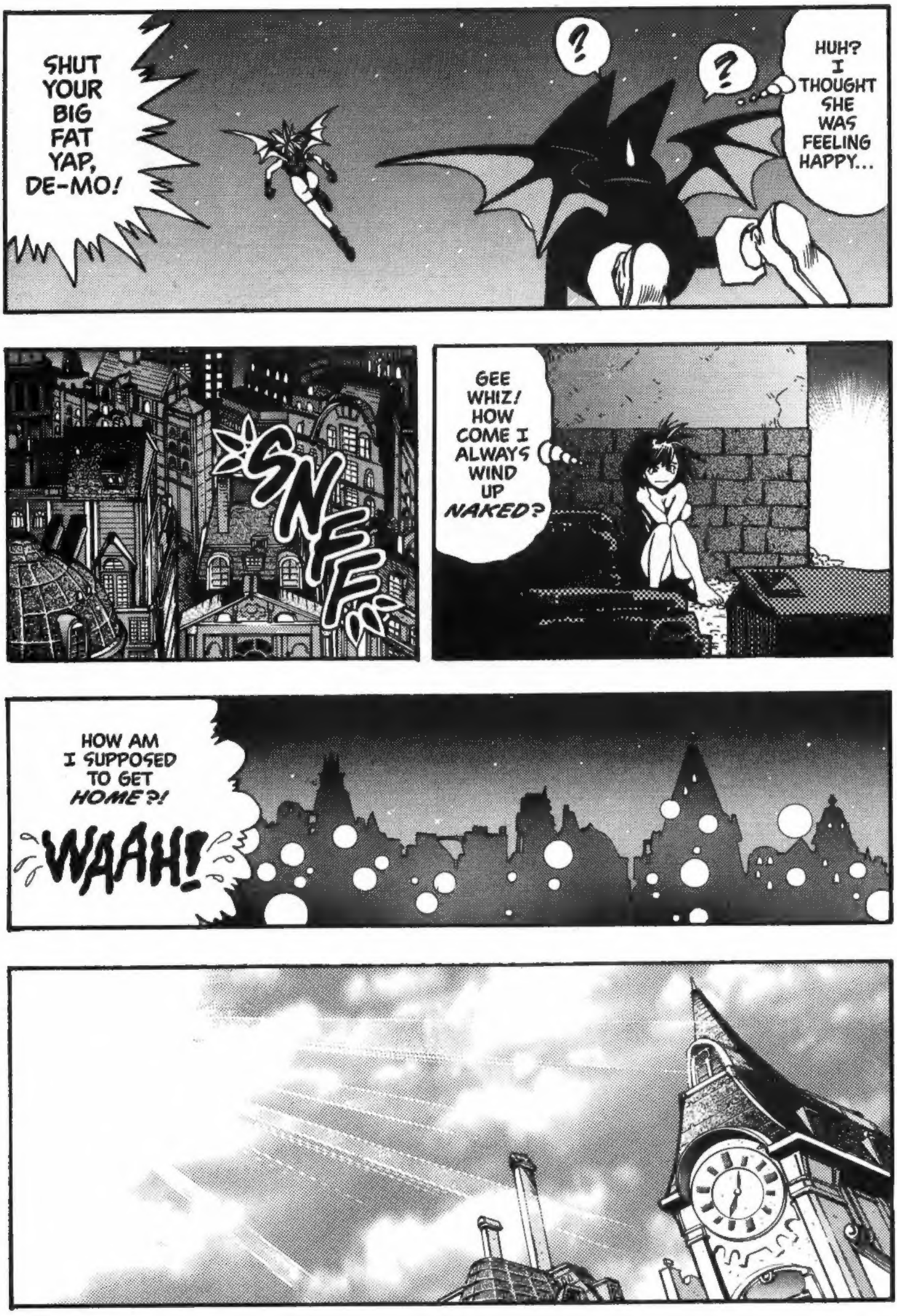
AAGH!
WH- WHAT THE DEVIL ...?!
SORRY 'BOUT THAT, INSPECTOR DUMMY. JUST HAD TO BLOW OFF A LITTLE STEAM, Y'KNOW?
fft
AAH?! SHADOW LADY!!
DON'T CATCH COLD!
BYOINGG
RRNNG!
WH- WHAT'S SHADOW LADY DOING HERE, BOSS ...?!
WHO CARES, YOU IDIOT?! GET HER!!!
ATTAAAACK!
RMBBRMBB


THERE SHE GOES!
FWHSSH
RMBBRMBB
SHE WENT INTO THAT ROOM!
WE'VE GOT HER NOW!
SLAM
WHAM
HEY! IT'S PITCH BLACK IN HERE!
WHSSH
HEH... I SEE YOU!
RMBB
GRAB!
GOTCHA!!
FINALLY!!

SHRIEEEEK!
KLIK!
GACK!
SQPSH

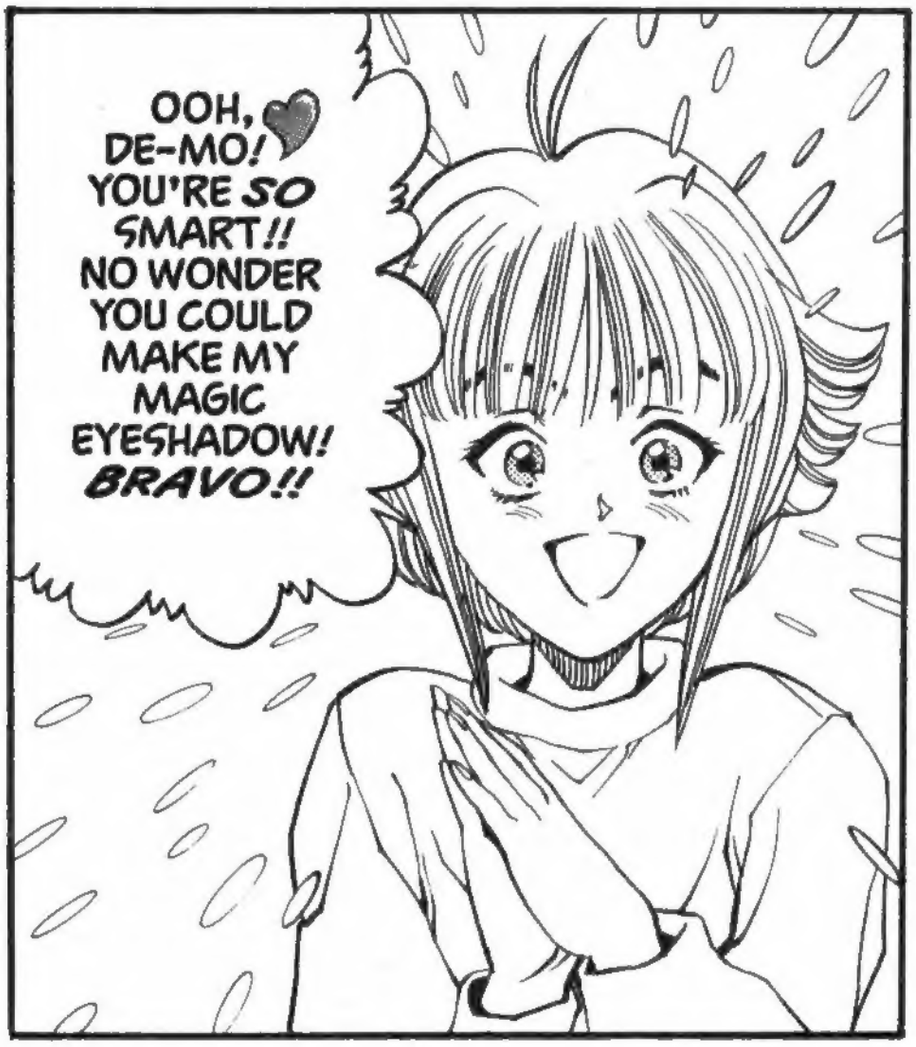
GROPER!!
PERVERT!!
EEEK!
URNK!
SCREAM!
OOF!
EEEK!
HELP ME! SOME-BODY HELLLP!!

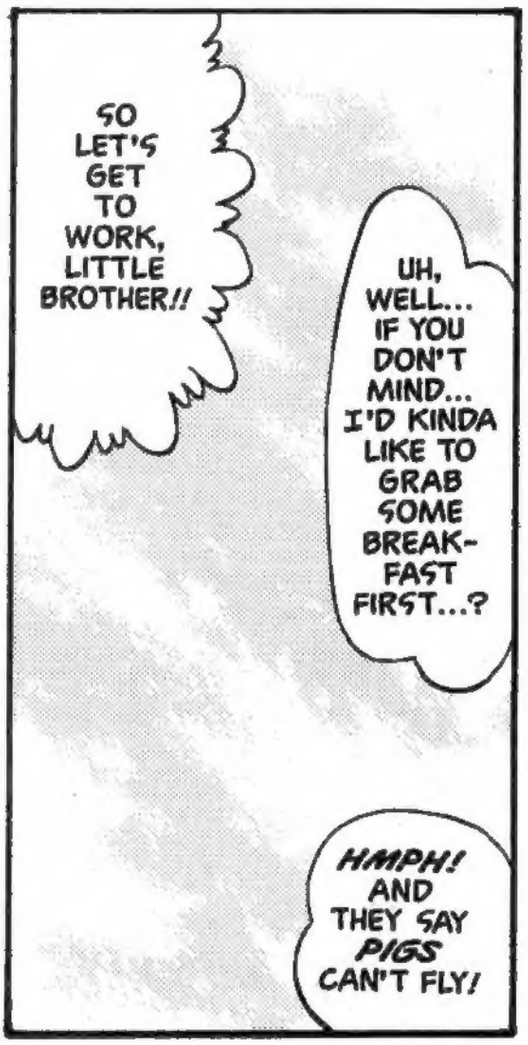
THE JOB AIN'T ALL BAD, HUH, GUYS? THERE YOU GO-- YOUR MISSING KIDNAP VICTIMS! TAKE GOOD CARE OF 'EM, OKAY?
EEEK!
SHRIEK!
BWA HA HA!
THAT WAS GREAT!!
I GOTTA ADMIT... THOSE CLOWNS REALLY CHEERED ME UP!
YEAH, BUT BRIGHT SURE WAS READY AND WILLING TO THINK YOU WERE A MURDERER, AIMI.
GUESS HE'S NOT WORTH WORRYING ABOUT AFTER A--
BOP


SHUT YOUR BIG FAT YAP, DE-MO!
?
?
HUH? I THOUGHT SHE WAS FEELING HAPPY...
SNIFF
GEE WHIZ! HOW COME I ALWAYS WIND UP NAKED?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO GET HOME?!
WAAH!

....SO THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS, AIMI.
HMM.
I SEE.
IF THE REST OF THE DEMON STONES COME BACK TO LIFE, IT'S "BYE-BYE WORLD." SO SOMEHOW, BEFORE THAT HAPPENS, WE GOTTA...
....
....
MAKE YOU A BETTER PERSON...? REFORM YOU? CLEARLY THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
AIMI ...?
MM?!
ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME!?
I'M LISTENING, I'M LISTENING! REALLY! SO, uh, ANYWAY, DE-MO... HOW DO WE FIND THE OTHER STONES?
TRUST ME.

I MADE THIS!
DE-MO'S DEMON STONE DETECTOR! ™
TA-DAA!
I CHECKED OUT THE STONES A BIT, AND IT TURNS OUT EVEN THE EMPTY CASINGS GIVE OFF A SPECIAL ENERGY SIGNATURE. WE TRACE THAT ENERGY WITH THIS LI'L BABY, AND BINGO!




SO LET'S GET TO WORK, LITTLE BROTHER!!
UH, WELL... IF YOU DON'T MIND... I'D KINDA LIKE TO GRAB SOME BREAK-FAST FIRST...?
HMPH! AND THEY SAY PIGS CAN'T FLY!

NEXT SERIES: "SUDDEN DEATH"...!